

SPECIAL 420TH COLLECTOR'S ISSUE

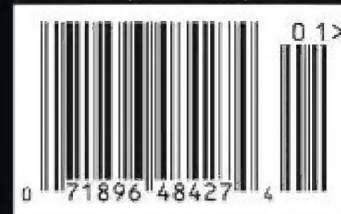
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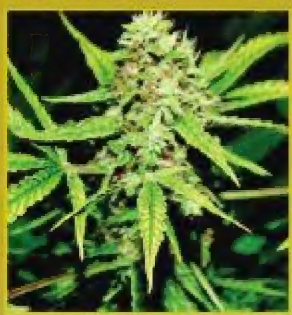
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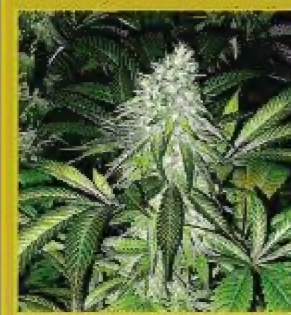
VANILLA KUSH

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EASY RYDER

G13 LABS



PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

DNA GENETICS



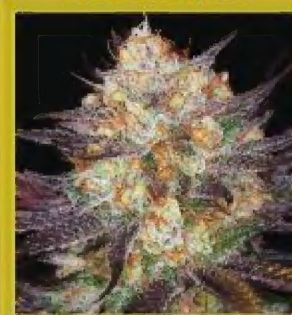
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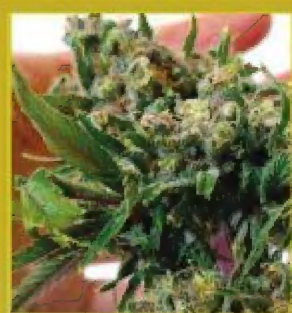
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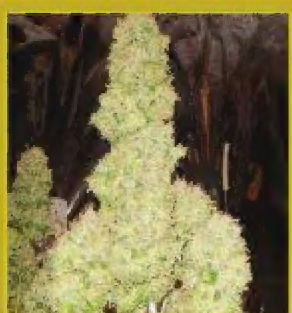
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BLUE CHEESE

SERIOUS SEEDS



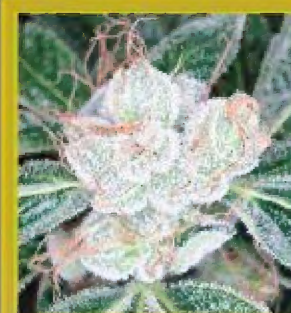
WHITE RUSSIAN

BIG BUDDHA



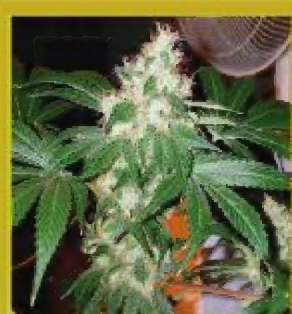
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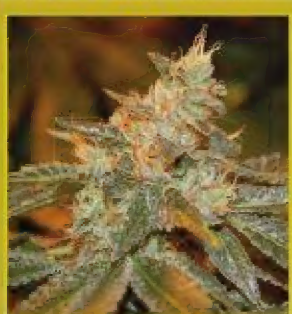
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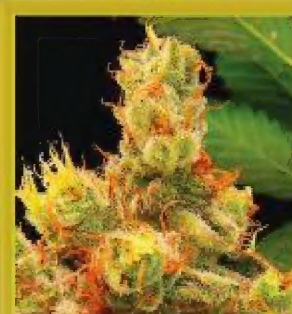
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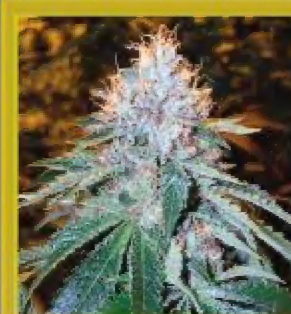
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The Artist Kelsie works her magic on Miss HT Brittany Wagoner. See page 14!

OUR 420TH ISSUE!

Special-celebration issues are a visible milestone for the HIGH TIMES staff. They're a time to take stock of the magazine and celebrate the elements that have contributed to our longevity. They're also a time to feel fortunate—because being part of HIGH TIMES is also to be a part of the modern cannabis history that we're all creating and experiencing, for better and worse. And all of us here are especially grateful, in these wobbly economic times, to be a part of one of the few American industries that is still growing and expected to flourish in the years ahead.

Even so, we all yearn for a safer, saner world for pot smokers. Five minutes ago, I was surreptitiously smoking a joint while pretending to take a leisurely stroll in the parking lot of the Palms Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. I'm not sure how many tourists take a midday walk in Vegas on blazing asphalt with the temperature holding at 108 degrees, but that's the state of pot smoking for most of us. We're still skulking around, grabbing our pleasure on the sly, trying not to get busted.

This episode took place right before our interview with rocker Melissa Etheridge. She's at the tail end of her "Fearless Love" tour and was more than happy to sit down and talk with us for this historic issue. She's a breast-cancer survivor and an outspoken proponent of cannabis, medical and otherwise. Her perspective on the future matches ours: She's as eager for a new day to dawn as we are, a day when cannabis can compete in every industry—food, textiles, construction, medicine and countless others—without being stigmatized as a dangerous plant.

The mission of every issue of HIGH TIMES is to normalize the world's attitudes toward cannabis. Therefore, it's only fitting that NORML founder Keith Stroup weigh in here on the history of that organization, HIGH TIMES' stalwart partner since the beginning. You'll also find Tommy Chong and Ethan Nadelmann in this issue, along with other notables of our community.

Everyone's seeking a world at peace with marijuana. Four hundred and twenty issues represents our own strength of purpose. We're gratified that you, our readers, have found value in the part we've played in this vital crusade.

Our solemn promise: It won't take 420 more issues for this new Age of Cannabis to arrive. Thanks for being part of HIGH TIMES!

Dan Skye
Dan Skye
Executive Editor

Check out our video at hightimes.com/420covers.



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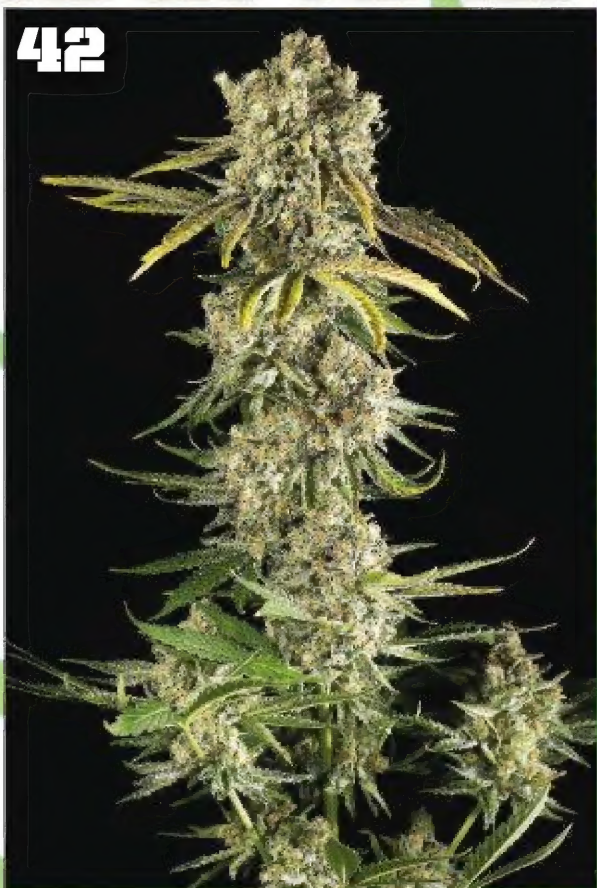
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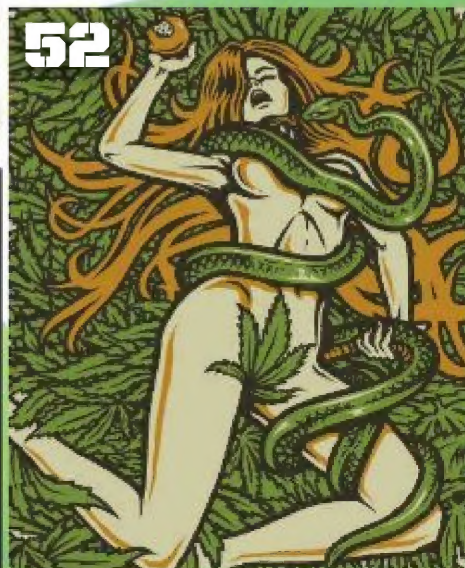
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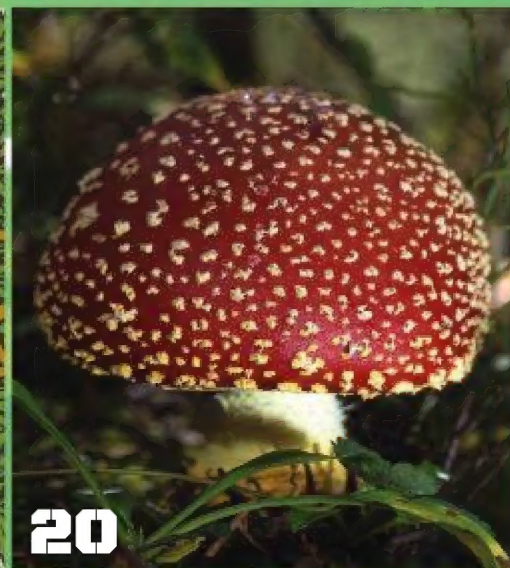
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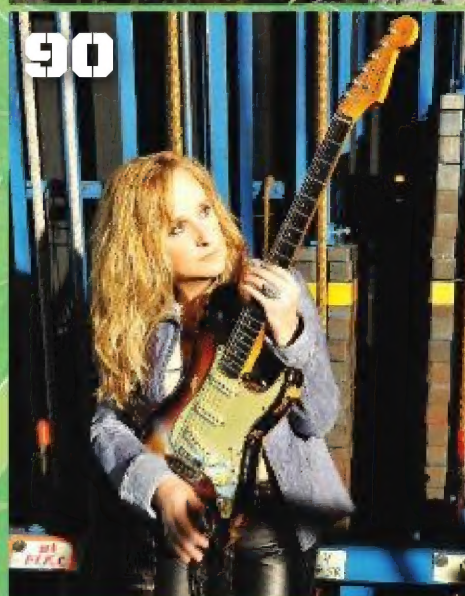
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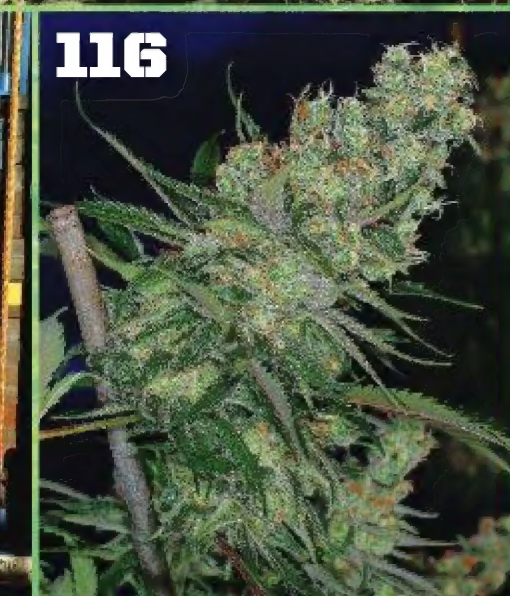
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Danny Danko investigates the history and lineage of the legendary cannabis strain known as "the Kush" in our revealing search to separate fact from fiction and myth from reality about this tasty and potent pot variety. Bonus book excerpt: Danny's Top 10 Kush Strains.

52 THE ART OF ROCK

BY BOBBY BLACK

The concert poster has been the quintessential way by which we learn of and commemorate our favorite live performances. HT's resident rocker takes a brief look at the history of this unique genre and showcases some of today's headiest artists.

58 CLONING MADE EASY

Danny Danko discloses the basic environmental factors that lead to successfully rooting cannabis cuttings for more efficient gardens that provide more harvests yearly—and with larger yields of guaranteed female buds. Bonus: Cloning in Coco by Mosca.

66 KUSHMAN'S VEGANIC GROWING

HIGH TIMES' legendary cultivation reporter extraordinaire returns with a unique new growing technique and philosophy that goes beyond the merely "organic" and takes connoisseurs and medical patients into the realm of the cleanest, tastiest and best-burning cannabis ever.

85 THE 420 MILESTONE

Keith Stroup, Ethan Nadelmann, Vivian McPeak and Dennis Peron weigh in on the significance of 420 issues of HIGH TIMES and the long road that still lies ahead of us.

90 THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW: MELISSA ETHERIDGE

She's one of the top women in rock'n'roll, a breast-cancer survivor and an outspoken proponent of marijuana, medical and otherwise. Melissa Etheridge lends her powerful voice to the clamor for legal cannabis.

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EDITED BY DAN SKYE

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EDITED BY DANNY DANKO & NICO ESCONDIDO
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COVER: KENT SEA STRAIN: CHEM DOG
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HAPPY 420TH

Weed is so simple: obtain and ingest. And you've gotten 420 issues out of that—you guys are geniuses! HIGH TIMES is to weed what the Waldos are to 420. We both support higher learning.

Congratulations on 420 issues.

*The Waldos,
originators of the term "420"*

Congratulations, HIGH TIMES!

While most print magazines are losing readers, HIGH TIMES is publishing its big, fat 420th issue! I am proud to have been a part of so many of those 420 issues during the last 37 years. HIGH TIMES is an institution, in America and worldwide!

¡Viva HIGH TIMES!

¡Viva 420!

Jorge Cervantes

What can I say to the most notorious magazine in history? The 420th issue? Has it only been that many? I started reading HT at 12 years old. I fondly remember and acknowledge all my mentors: Thomas King Forcade, R the Dope Connoisseur, Professor Afghani (RIP), Chris Simunek, Steve Hager, Mel Frank, Jorge Cervantes and Robert Connell Clark. Collectively, they taught me almost everything I know concerning the plant, the culture and everything related to cultivation. After all these years, I still can't wait for the next issue so I can read it cover to cover! I very much look forward to issue no. 840. Maybe by then the world will have rid itself of these senseless anti-cannabis laws.

Booyashaka, HT, and respect!

K, Trichome Technologies

Seems like just yesterday that I was looking at my first issue of HIGH TIMES. Nothing's really been the same ever since: There's pre-HT and post-HT. Looking back after all these years, I wonder what my life would have been without HT. (Lame, I'm sure!) I'd like to thank the gang in New York and all the remote peeps out in the way that make the magazine happen. I'd also like to forget all the trunks of cars I was put in back in the early years just to be able to photograph those secret gardens. The pictures sure made it worthwhile, though, and I hope all you good people enjoy what you see through my eyes.

Freebie

Hey, HIGH TIMES! Congrats on issue no. 420! The Disco Biscuits will puff one down on behalf of your joyous occasion!

Marc Brownstein, bassist, the Disco Biscuits

DNA Genetics and family would like to give HT kudos for being around for 420 issues!! Thanks for reporting the issues on cannabis long before the "green rush" and when it was not so accepted; by doing this you paved the way and gave a platform for people like DnA. Respect and keep up the good work!! Puff tuff.

DNA Genetics



I'm delighted to be a never-censored columnist for HIGH TIMES, and I'm inspired every month that such a magazine has consistently served its readers with information, commentary and photography based on pleasure, compassion and justice. So here's wishing y'all a happy 420, as invisible communities toke at the exact same time in what has become a global ritual.

Paul Krassner, HT columnist

BC Bud Depot would like to wish the HIGH TIMES staff and all of their loyal readers a Happy 420th. Let's all smoke a bowl in great anticipation of what the next 420 issues will bring.

Matt & the BC Bud Depot team

Other magazines have come and gone, while HIGH TIMES has been providing me with amazing insights into the world of green for decades now. In this 420th issue, I'd like to thank HT and its staff for the great opportunities over the years to be a part of this incredible scene as a contributor to the world's most notorious magazine devoted to all things cannabis. The articles, photos, books and calendars always give me something to look forward to year after year. But it's the people of HIGH TIMES and the community they've created that are truly the heroes of this great publication. I look forward to being a part of this awesome team for years to come, and I salute the people who have worked so hard to bring us the kind, one issue at a time.

Lochfoot

T.H.Seeds and Hemp Hoodlamb would like to congratulate HIGH TIMES on your 420th issue. It's been a long and stony road, but thanks to HT, we have kept on track. It's been an honor to participate in the Cannabis Cup every year, and we look forward to another 420 issues from the world's best cannabis magazine—one that proves, over and over, that hemp works!

*From sunny Holland,
T.H.Seeds/Hemp Hoodlamb*

Congratulations to HIGH TIMES on your 420th issue! Who'd have thought that one of Tom Forcade's many amazing feats would lead to decades of the finest journalism on so many different topics? Four hundred and twenty issues devoted to helping readers support their own freedom, make ends meet, and stay informed is a superb accomplishment and a genuine public service. It's hard to look at it all without quoting the Grateful Dead. Let's all celebrate in our favorite way as we eagerly anticipate prohibition's end and another 420 issues!

Dr. Mitch Earleywine

Keep It Green!

Soma of Soma Seeds

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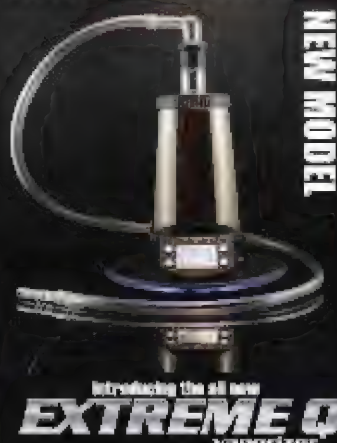


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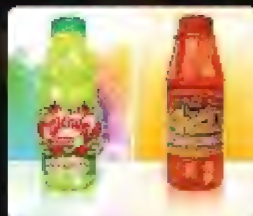
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celebrating 420

HIGH TIMES recognized the untapped energy behind 420 and fueled the phenomenon.



Long Live Thomas King Forçade!

Remember those old movies about knighthood and medieval history? At some point during the flick, a palace bureaucrat would step out on a castle balcony and solemnly address the crowd gathered below: "The king is dead! Long live the king!"

It was so confusing. Were they going to bury the king, or put his corpse back on the throne?

Here in the 21st century, we're still confused. In the magazine world, we continue to hear similar pronouncements about the publishing industry: "Print is dead!" And yet, here HIGH TIMES stands—stronger and more vibrant than ever.

We've watched countless magazines vanish over the past few years. Five hundred publications folded in 2008, 400 more in 2009, and just as many this past year. The recession has been brutal on ad revenues. Print circulation is in decline, and website audiences have increased. Plus we keep hearing that everybody reads a whole lot less.

But here we are, publishing our 420th issue and entering our 37th year of celebrating *high times*, which truly is our mission. As the saying goes, life is what we make it. Our bodies and our brains are our sacred property. We're free to use them as we see fit in order to explore this incredible experience called life. John Holmstrom, HT's publisher during the mid-'90s, has always been quick to note that Tom Forçade, HIGH TIMES' founder, never intended HT to be a so-called "marijuana magazine." He envisioned something more, a chronicle of the counterculture whose overriding message would be: "Do what you want, and fuck anyone else who doesn't like it!"

There are some obvious provisos to that declaration, such as "Be responsible" and "Don't fuck up anyone else's ride." But generally, that's what HIGH TIMES is all about. Obviously, marijuana is the vehicle we now drive to actualize Tom's Forçade's vision. But that's because our government's War on Pot represents a war on our bodies, our brains and our freedom. The right to freely use marijuana represents far more than just the right to get high.

As Tom Forçade was founding HIGH TIMES, a group of students at San Rafael High School in California were sowing the roots of a countercultural institution. Forty years later, their simple, secret code of 4:20—a time to hang out and shed the high-school anxieties—has become internationally understood stoner-speak. In fact, stoners commonly say "Let's 420!" any time they feel like toking up. And April 20 has become the unofficial pot smokers' holiday, widely covered by the media annually, and growing in stature as marijuana culture proliferates around the world.

During the pre-Internet era, HIGH TIMES was instrumental in spreading the gospel of 420, defining its meaning and dispelling myths about its origins. Unfortunately, Tom Forçade died in 1978 and never witnessed the communal power that 420 has unleashed. Nor did he witness the proliferation of indoor pot growing, or the artistry and innovations of the glass-smokeware industry—or the fact that we are now on the cusp of full-scale legalization.

Today, we see victories for our side everywhere. People know propaganda when they hear it. They're sick of lies—which is why HIGH TIMES is still here.

Reaching the milestone of 420 issues demonstrates that the pursuit of truth can be both a public service and a marketable product. So the next time we hear "Print is dead," we're gonna shout back: "Long live the king!"

Which would be marijuana, of course! 🌿



Watch our video "The Story of 420."



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BIG SCORE!

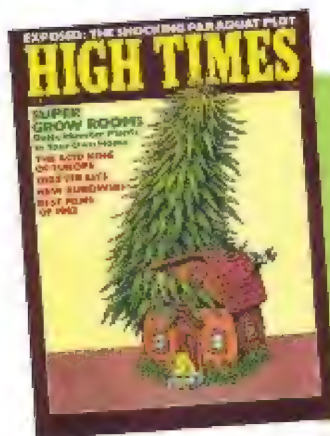
On this auspicious occasion, Miss HIGH TIMES 2010 Brittany Wagoner wanted to give HT a special cheer, so she had herself body-painted by The Artist Kelsie. But Brittany's no cheerleader—she's a top player with great moves! Grower, activist and dispensary budtender in Denver, she's a superstar in the major leagues of cannabis! Check out her body-painting experience at hightimes.com.



To see more

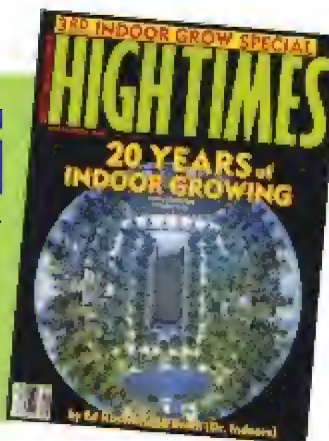


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LATE BLOOMERS

We may be publishing our 420th issue, but indoor cultivation didn't make the cover until issue #91 (Mar. '83), and an actual grow-room didn't appear until issue #157 (Sept. '88). Two decades later, cannabis has generated a multibillion-dollar industry dedicated to producing top-quality cannabis indoors. As a result, outdoor growers are now reporting a precipitous drop in prices.



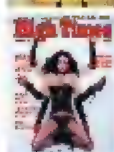
OUR STONEDEST COVERS

Some of **HIGH TIMES'** most outlandish cover ideas have come out of 4:20 sessions. Herewith, our most bizarrely buzzed covers.



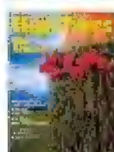
CUPCAKE SURPRISE (Sept. '75)

Um, that's not a cupcake. One of our classics—primarily because there's no story listed on the cover that has anything to do with the image! But that's okay: How can you argue with chocolate?



LOST IN THE KALI MIST (Aug. '76)

Our rendition of the Hindu goddess Kali is a little confusing. We understand the sex and mushrooms, but how do you get high on leather? Plus, the model is holding beer and dice. Nobody said we had to make sense.



SKIRTING THE ISSUE (Feb. '80)

This hula outfit was a true *grass* skirt. Thirty-one years ago, readers rarely saw colas of this magnitude. Our cover certainly did nothing to hurt Hawaiian tourism.



THE FOUL LINE (Jun. '85)

In the '80s, professional athletes (and practically everyone else in America) did a bump every now and then. But then the Drug Warriors lumped coke together with pot—and we've been working to overcome the stigma ever since.



MOONSTRUCK (Feb. '92)

WTF? Considering that no one lives on the moon or is going to anytime soon, let alone grow pot up there, this concept appealed to absolutely no one. But the pot we smoked that day sure was good!



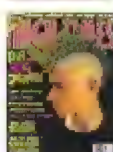
TAKE ME TO YOUR DEALER (Aug. '95)

During the mid-'90s, the media became fixated on UFOs. We joined in because we know our audience—stoners love weird shit! (Note: That's senior editor Bobby Black as the alien.)



PYRAMID POWER (Sept. '95)

Photographers often outdo themselves creating new images. One even built the Parthenon, Stonehenge and the Great Pyramids of Egypt, which ended up on our cover.



WE GOT PUNK'D! (Nov. '96)

Let's make a mohawk out of pot! Great idea ... but how? We found out. You hire a top makeup artist, let her run rampant with glue, and end up ruining more pot than we ever thought possible.



WATERWORLD (Mar. '01)

We were obviously all wet with this issue: water pipes, hydro reports, Muddy Waters the blues legend, and a floating mermaid holding a conch full of top-notch kind.



SEND IN THE CLONES (Mar. '02)

What can you do with sexy twins? Paint them white, put blue lipstick on them, and make them look generally hideous. But we got our point across with the readers. After all, this is science!

A DOUBIOUS DATE

April 20 has had more lows than highs.

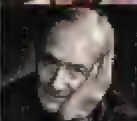
| YEAR | EVENT | LEGACY |
|------|--|---|
| 1534 | Explorer Jacques Cartier sets sail and discovers Canada and Labrador. | They were there already. |
| 1657 | Freedom of religion granted to Jews of New Amsterdam (now New York City). | Muslims still have problems building mosques. |
| 1775 | The British begin their siege of Boston during the Revolutionary War. | Bad way to win hearts and minds. |
| 1799 | Napoleon issues a decree to establish Jerusalem for Jews. | That worked out well. |
| 1862 | First pasteurization test completed by Louis Pasteur. | Great! But now experts say dairy will kill you. |
| 1871 | The Civil Rights Act of 1871 becomes law. | Oh, well, they tried. |
| 1871 | New law allows president to suspend writ of habeas corpus. | Took less than 100 years to sidestep the Constitution. |
| 1888 | 246 reported killed by hail in Moradabad, India. | The Weather Channel would've gotten it wrong anyway. |
| 1903 | New York Highlanders play their first game. | Later they become the Yankees, now universally hated. |
| 1916 | The Chicago Cubs open Wrigley Field. | Haven't won the World Series since 1908. |
| 1917 | Lenin names Russia "free land of world." | Well, it sounded good. |
| 1918 | Manfred von Richthofen ("the Red Baron") shoots down his last plane in WWI. | He's shot down and killed on April 21. |
| 1926 | New technology for sound in movies is announced. | Audiences lose hearing during action flick <i>The Expendables</i> . |
| 1945 | Soviet troops enter Berlin during WWII. | How do you spell "revenge"? |
| 1961 | US-backed invasion of Cuba fails at the Bay of Pigs. | Cuba and US locked in time warp ever since. |
| 1971 | US Supreme Court okays busing to achieve racial desegregation. | A lesson in how to please no one. |
| 1983 | President Reagan signs a \$165B bailout of Social Security. | It's amazing how far \$165B used to go. |
| 1993 | Uranus passes Neptune, which occurs every 171 years. | Damn! Missed it again! |
| 1999 | Columbine HS massacre: two students murder 13 then kill themselves. | Permanent stain on our day of bliss. |
| 2004 | In Iraq, insurgents fire on Abu Ghraib prison, killing 22, wounding 92 others. | They must have been pissed off about something. |
| 2010 | BP Deepwater Horizon fire results in massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. | Wakeup call, anyone? Apparently not. |

BORN ON THE 20TH OF APRIL



EDNA PARKER

Lived to 115. Fourteenth-longest-living person ever.



JOAN MIRÓ

Spanish surrealist painter whose art still blows the stoner mind.



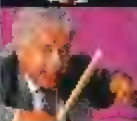
ADOLF HITLER

Universally agreed-upon personification of evil.



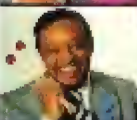
JOHN PAUL STEVENS

Served 35 years on US Supreme Court. Retired in 2010.



TITO PUENTE

Jazz and mambo musician considered the king of Latin music.



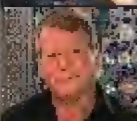
LIONEL HAMPTON

Jazz legend who played vibes, piano, drums and sang.



GEORGE TAKEI

Played Sulu in TV's *Star Trek*. Outspoken gay-rights activist.



RYAN O'NEAL

Love Story actor struggling with family problems in recent years.



JESSICA LANGE

King Kong's girlfriend in '76 remake. Took home Oscars in '82 and '94.



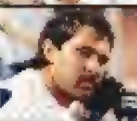
EDIE SEDGWICK

Tragic actress/model of the Andy Warhol scene.



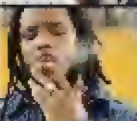
STEVE SPURRIER

College coach well-known for winning and arrogance.



DON MATTINGLY

Ex-New York Yankee, borderline Hall of Famer with bum back.



STEPHEN MARLEY

Bob's son and a reggae star in his own right.



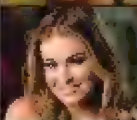
CRISPIN GLOVER

Film actor famous for extreme creepiness.



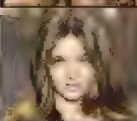
JOEY LAWRENCE

'80s teen TV heartthrob who was in...um....



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MIRANDA KERR

Victoria's Secret super-model known for not being overweight.



The legendary comic, Tommy Chong, drops some stoner wisdom on the marijuana masses.

CHONG, BONGS AND CIVIL WRONGS

We've reached our 420th issue. Is that significant for you?

The thing about *HIGH TIMES* is that you guys were like the bastard child of the publishing world. *HIGH TIMES* and Cheech & Chong are a lot alike: We both share countercultural cult status that we *earned*. You guys managed to keep that thread of truth on the newsstand. I see *HIGH TIMES* all over the place. You're like *The Daily Show* for magazines—you're miles ahead of the culture. Because pot is becoming mainstream, people are just now discovering *HIGH TIMES*.

You became one of the mainstays of our success. You've been on the cover eight times! My whole career is wrapped up with *HIGH TIMES*. *HIGH TIMES* and Tommy Chong were meant for each other.

You were busted for selling bongos six years ago and spent a year in prison. Did the experience change you? Big time, big time. I was always really a comedian—I didn't see it coming. We had been making and selling bongos openly for years. Then, all of a sudden, if I shipped them across state lines, I was breaking federal law. I was set up so blatantly that it really woke me up. When I was facing time, I could have beaten the charge. The business was not in my name; it was in my son's name. They could have given him a rough time—and they would have. So I pleaded guilty, and I'm glad I did. I went on location ... I was embedded with the troops!

Did you ever think, "I can't believe this is happening to me"?

They're very sneaky—not just the cops, the whole legal profession. Prosecutors deal people's lives like they were a deck of cards: "Instead of life, how about 30 years?" They agree on it and have a handshake, and everything is done. That's what they did with me.

It split my families. They took about as much money from me as they could—about \$2 million at the end of the day. There were some dark times. They took what they could from me; they took my computers, my bongos. They tried to really make me feel like—well, like a *nigger*. That's what they did. They put me in jail, in uniform; they made me a prisoner.

I consider the Drug War a very racially driven war. It's the last Jim Crow law on the books. What got me interested right from the beginning was the hypocrisy of Richard Nixon: The first thing he did as president was appoint a commission to look into whether or not pot should be legal. The commission came back with the conclusion that pot *should* be legal. Then he dismantled the commission and formed the DEA, which has jurisdiction throughout the whole world.

My whole career is wrapped up with *HIGH TIMES*. *HIGH TIMES* and Tommy Chong were meant for each other.

You and Cheech were contemplating reuniting right before your bust. How did it affect him?

Well, Cheech had previously given up the culture; he also did some anti-drug commercials. But at the end of the day, he was still known more for being Cheech from Cheech & Chong. When we got back together, it was so simple and so easy—because we were meant to do this. Now we've done it. It remains to be seen what is next.

What have you learned from all of this?

Ego is the devil. The reason I ended up in jail was that my ego said, "I am Tommy Chong—I will never wind up in jail."

How do you stay on top of things today?

I Ching has helped me bring it under control.

Some say that's like using numerology or horoscopes to cope.

Every day, everybody has something that works. *I Ching* helped me in jail.

Jail is a corrective process—and I was there to correct my behavior.

You and Shelby have been married for over 30 years. What's kept you together?

We fell in love on acid. It was a cosmic connection—I love beauty, and she loves beauty. She gets more beautiful every day. Of course, my eyes get worse every day. [Laughs] It all evens out. The main thing: We argue. She challenges me on everything I do and say. It's like living with an editor.

So what's your next goal?

Total humility—that's what I'm going for. ✨

Visit cheechandchong.com, and also check out Tommy's memoir, *I Chong: Meditations From the Joint*.

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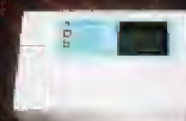
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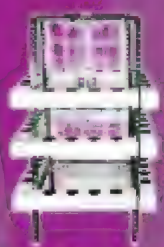
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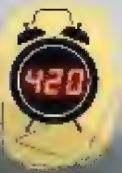


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A rainbow appears in the box canyon of the Telluride mountains right before the start of the Annual Mushroom Parade.



The beautiful and toxic *Amanita Muscaria*.

This puffball knows what's up.

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Fungophiles, unite!

The Telluride Mushroom Festival celebrates 30 years of boomin' and shroomin'. By Natasha Lewin

The summer of 2010 was an unusually rainy one for Colorado. The normal annual precipitation there is 17 or 18 inches, which works out to about 1.5 inches per month—but this past year, August took the title of wettest month on record, with nearly 3.5 inches falling. That had some Coloradoans cursing the Weather Channel, but lots of rain means lots of moisture—and lots of moisture means a very successful Telluride Mushroom Festival.

Held at the end of every August, the Telluride Mushroom Festival enjoyed a monumental year in 2010. Aside from the very unexpected (but extremely appreciated) rainfall, Mush Fest celebrated its milestone 30th anniversary. While the festival pays homage to fungi of all shapes and sizes (toxic *and* edible), the underlying purpose of the yearly trip to Telluride is clear: to trip ... out. Thirty years of wizard hats and fairy wings is

nothing to shake a spore at. To understand how a quiet ski town with a population of less than 3,000—the size of most urban high schools—has nurtured and enjoyed 30 annual weekends of toadstool-topped trucks shutting down its main thoroughfare for the yearly Shroomfest parade, one must first understand Telluride and its hippie roots.

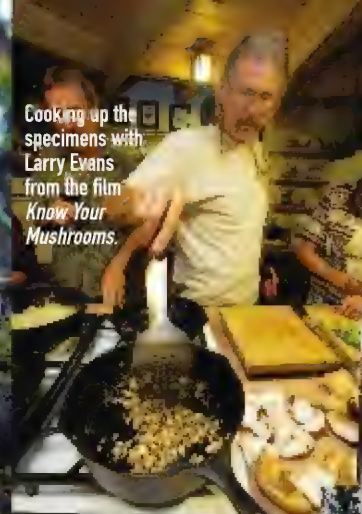
Contrary to what most people believe, Colorado isn't all liberals and pot smokers: In Grand Junction, a local carwash declares that it will "remove 'HOPE' and 'CHANGE' bumper stickers for free." And the front page of the *Denver Post's* food section is dedicated to mushroom foraging with the North American Mycological Association—three pages devoted to fungiphilia—just a day before the 30th Annual Shroomfest. Yet there's not one mention of the festival, nor of Telluride.

The town is tucked away in a box canyon surrounded by steep, forested cliffs in the western San Juan Mountains. Located at an elevation of 8,700 feet, Telluride was originally a conservative mining town—the only industry until 1972, when the first ski lift was erected, eight years before the Mushroom Fest was born. In time, mining families left the area and were replaced by young, worldly nature seekers who wanted to keep their numbers small. The new population was anti-expansion, anti-tourism and, most importantly, antiwar. The townspeople tried banning tourist cars from the city proper, allowing only horse-drawn carriages. As a result, Telluride's economy began to slide, but the town began its recovery by branding itself as "Colorado's Best Kept Secret."

Today, Telluride is famous for its festivals: Since the late '70s, it's played host to a different event for



Are mushrooms the key to soaking up the oil spill? Noted mycologist Paul Stamets thinks so.



Cooking up the specimens with Larry Evans from the film *Know Your Mushrooms*.



Getting down with the drum circle.



Art Goodtimes is the Grand Marshall.



Entheogens as Medicine panel (l to r): ayahuasca expert Marie Luna, yours truly, spiritual investigator Michael Logghe, Valerie Mojeiko of MAPS and mushroom expert Gary Lincoff.



Fungus Claus with a treat for the naughty ones on his list.



What a day for a foray.



Leadshole and Bubblegum, together at last.

every weekend of the summer, including the star-studded film and bluegrass festivals. This past year, Phish performed an intimate sold-out concert for an audience of 600 at Telluride's Town Park.

By the '80s, the town had become synonymous with the counterculture. Mexican smugglers used it as a drop point, and Glenn Frey featured it in his hit song from *Miami Vice*, "Smuggler's Blues." Importers and exporters of the drug scene were happy to visit the unassuming locale during their downtime. Tourism boomed, and when an extension to the ski area opened, Telluride's place among exclusive Colorado resort towns like Vail and Breckenridge was sealed. It now boasts free public transportation aboard its bus, the Galloping Goose, which traverses the town's loop. A free gondola connects it with another small ski community, Mountain Village, 365 days a year. And, at present, there are five medical-marijuana dispensaries open for business here, two of them lo-

cated on West Colorado Street, the main drag that bisects the town.

Mush Fest first began in the late '70s as a small educational conference in Aspen, hosted by Dr. Emanuel Salzman and Beth Israel Hospital. There was disagreement among some of the participants and mycologists as to whether or not hallucinogenic mushrooms should be included. In 1981, Fungophile, Inc.—the Salzman nonprofit that ran the event—moved the conference to the much freer-thinking environs of Telluride. Today, the Telluride Institute—a not-for-profit organization dedicated to health and well-being in the progressive world—shares the responsibility for running the festival with the Telluride Council for Community Arts and Special Events. Art Goodtimes, a T-Ride resident and self-proclaimed "Chief Pooh Bear" of the annual Shroom Fest, has been one the event's main organizers for 25 years, even saving the festival from shutting down in

2008. "It's become a lot more than just a conference," Goodtimes says. "Over the years, organizers began stacking on more elements—music, performance, the famous parade—until it evolved into the four-day fungal immersion it is today."

That's no fungi lie: Mush Fest is an extravaganza of all things shroom! The festival includes cultivation workshops, film screenings, fungus identification stations, mushroom tastings, forays into the meadows of the San Juan Mountains, as well as panels, lectures and discussions with the planet's top mycologists. Past guest speakers have included author and physician Dr. Andrew Weil, celebrated psychonaut Terrence McKenna, chemist Sasha Shulgin, founder of the Drug Policy Alliance Ethan Nadelmann, and psilocybe expert and advocate of medicinal mushrooms Paul Stamets.

You may not find magic mushrooms on any of your forages, but they're a crucial part of Mush

'Over the years, organizers began stacking on more elements—music, performance, the famous parade—until it evolved into the four-day fungal immersion it is today.'

Fest. Psilocybin is considered an entheogen, a psychoactive substance used for spiritual purposes. Most of the mycologists who come to the festival discuss the importance of psilocybin in society—especially how its natural healing properties shouldn't be overlooked, given that

they've been demonstrated scientifically time and time again. So while you won't see *Psilocybe cubensis* sitting on any of the festival's ID tables for analysis, you will see quite a few trippers. If you choose to join the festivities, though, be sure to bring plenty of water: Telluride's pretty high up, and if you take that free gondola ride, you're at an altitude of almost 13,000 feet. Altitude sickness is no joke, and combined with a hallucinating journey, you could be in for quite the tummy flop.

And if you go next year, remember to respect Telluride—it has a lot of hippie history to it. You won't see any "Don't move here" T-shirts in window displays, but the message is there. The townsfolk won't bother you if you don't bother them—just keep in mind that, at midnight, everything in Telluride shuts down. *Everything*. Occasionally, bars will stay open on the weekends until 1 or 2, but that depends on the bar. So make sure you have everything you need before taking that twilight trip.

And most importantly: Have fun! Dress up like *Amanita muscaria* for the parade, ask questions, go on the forays, and try a bite of the *nontoxic*, freshly picked fungi. Truffles are too expensive everywhere else. Here, they're free! ✨

For more information on the Telluride Mushroom Festival, go to tellurideinstitute.org.

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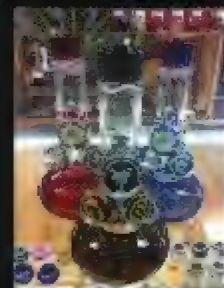
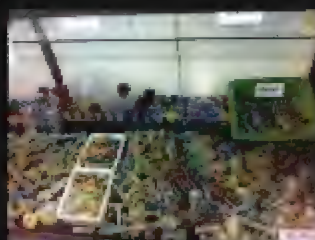
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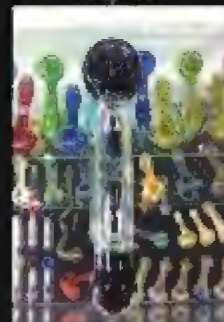
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An array of bongs



13 perk



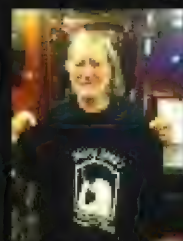
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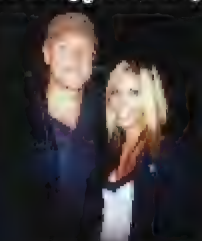
Willie Nelson



Jack Herer, Eddie Lepp,
and Baby Jane



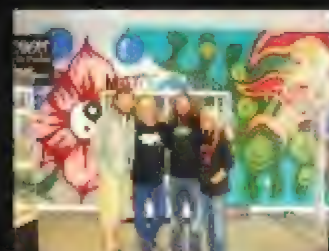
Mary Jane and Willie Nelson



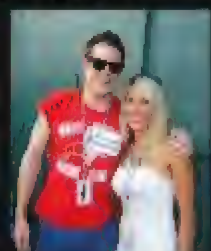
Woody Harrelson



Luke Nelson and
Promise of the Real



Jamey Johnson



Johnny Knoxville



Cheech and Chong



Mary Jane and Family
with Ed Rosenthal



Ron Jeremy

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MARKET ANALYSIS

For the second straight month, Diesel took the top pot spot and Kush finished the month as a runner-up. Blueberry made the top five for the first time since July 2010. As was the case in July, Blueberry was the least expensive strain of January's top five. The top five submitted strains (with average price) were Diesel (\$433), Kush (\$371), Haze (\$390), Blueberry (\$338) and Purps (\$442).

Index Watch: After taking a hit in December, the US Price and Kind indices both finished above their previous month's average for January (US Price +\$41, Kind +\$16). While the Mids Index essentially held steady, January 2011 marked the first month in which no entries were received for schwag. As a result, no data is available for the Schwag Index this month.

HIGH TIMES wants to know what you're smoking. Submit your strain information, including location and price by the ounce, to thmq@hightimes.com.

Trans-High Market Quotations (THMQ) reports pot prices by the ounce, strain and location. To submit prices, go to the THMQ link at hightimes.com.

CURRENT US PRICE INDEX: **\$377** (last month: \$336; YTD: \$377)

CURRENT KIND INDEX (\$350+ PER OZ): **\$423** (\$407, \$423)

CURRENT MIDS INDEX (\$150-\$349 PER OZ): **\$283** (\$285, \$283)

CURRENT SCHWAG INDEX (\$1-\$149 PER OZ): **N/A** (\$99, N/A)

Homegrown - \$420

Jerusalem, ISRAEL

"Due to massive busts on this year's spring crop in North Africa, the whole region is suffering big time. Israel was dry until late June, and the prices are now double the norm. Due to this embarrassing situation, many smokers cut down. But the grow scene is on the uprise"

UK Cheese - \$250

Salem, OREGON

"This is the TGA/Subcool version of UK Cheese. Very, very stinky, with hints of sour cream,

Parmesan and blueberries. Have to take it easy on it or you'll be staring out the window looking for cops that ain't coming. The price reflects the extremely flooded market here."

Diesel - \$400

Fairfax, VIRGINIA

"Very nice, fluffy, purple-tinted buds with fat calyxes spiraling off into little foxtails. The crystal coverage on this strain is insane. The exterior of the buds almost appears white, but there's purple somewhere under all those trichomes!"

STRAIN SUBMISSIONS JANUARY 2011



| STATE | CITY | STRAIN | PRICE |
|----------------|--------------|------------------------|-------|
| ARIZONA | Arizona City | LA Confidential | \$300 |
| CALIFORNIA | Los Angeles | OG Kush | \$450 |
| | | Diesel | \$340 |
| | Twin Peaks | Trainwreck | \$340 |
| | | Jack the Ripper | \$350 |
| COLORADO | Denver | UK Cheese | \$300 |
| | | Blueberry | \$250 |
| | Evergreen | Afghan Kush | \$350 |
| | | Island Sweet Skunk | \$340 |
| DELAWARE | Dover | White Diesel | \$420 |
| | | Cali O | \$400 |
| FLORIDA | Jacksonville | Kush | \$480 |
| | | Diesel | \$480 |
| HAWAII | Honolulu | The Purps | \$425 |
| ILLINOIS | Chicago | G-13 | \$400 |
| | | Crystal Lake | \$350 |
| INDIANA | Anderson | Blue Pearl | \$450 |
| LOUISIANA | Baton Rouge | OG Kush Bubble Hash | \$700 |
| | | Grapefruit Haze | \$360 |
| MAINE | Old Town | Afghani White Shark | \$300 |
| MICHIGAN | Detroit | Sour Diesel | \$500 |
| MONTANA | Helena | Afghan | \$250 |
| | | Headband | \$250 |
| | | Super Lemon Haze | \$250 |
| NEW YORK | Queens | Jack Herer | \$350 |
| NORTH CAROLINA | Statesville | White Widow | \$400 |
| | | Jack Herer | \$480 |
| | | Crimea Blue | \$400 |
| | | Super Lemon Haze | \$480 |
| NORTH DAKOTA | Williston | Strawberry Ice | \$480 |
| OHIO | Cleveland | East Coast Sour Diesel | \$375 |
| | | Purple Kush | \$400 |
| | | Super Silver Haze | \$500 |
| OREGON | Eagle Creek | AK-47 | \$280 |
| | | Salem | \$250 |
| PENNSYLVANIA | Reading | Cat Piss | \$400 |
| RHODE ISLAND | Providence | White Widow | \$425 |
| | | Cheese | \$300 |
| | | Sour Diesel | \$500 |
| | | Strawberry Cough | \$500 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | Charleston | Lemon Diesel | \$450 |
| | | Cindy-99 | \$450 |
| VIRGINIA | Fairfax | Diesel | \$400 |
| WISCONSIN | Milwaukee | God Bud | \$350 |

INTERNATIONAL (prices in Canadian or US dollars)

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|--------|
| CANADA | Kelowna | Diesel | C\$200 |
| | Surrey | Green Crack | C\$240 |
| | | Kryptonite Kush | C\$210 |
| | | Banana Kush | C\$220 |
| ISRAEL | Jerusalem | Homegrown | \$420 |
| | | Ditch Weed | \$85 |



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Busy Bee (in sheepskin coat) at "The Cheeba Spot" in the Bronx, 1980.

At the 23rd Annual HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam, a host of hip-hop celebrities, including Grand Wizzard Theodore and Busy Bee Starski, will be celebrating the emergence of hip-hop. By Steven Hager

FIRST GENERATION HIP-HOP

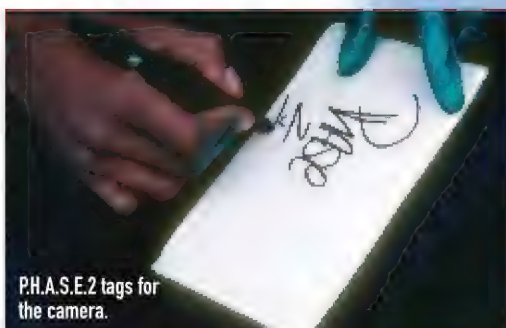
P.H.A.S.E.2

creator of wild style and classic street dances

I grew up in an atmosphere where we recognized we were being robbed of knowledge of culture, and knowledge of self. We created an art form that came up from our supposedly insignificant existences, and now it's everywhere on earth. That's a testament in itself.

In the late '60s, amidst an abundance of political and social turmoil, cultural awareness, racial pride and unrest, a youth-inspired movement emerged. Those who spawned its birth called it writing We're a part of something that is not only a part of New York history, but a part of the world.

But instead of trying to deal with the culture, the authorities chose to wipe it out. Just think ... they tried to kill it, but it just wouldn't die. No one I know in New York learned about hip-hop from movies or books. We experienced it all around us and through us: From the Lindy hop and jitterbug to the boogaloo, Afro twist, Latin hustle and freestyle, you always had those who were taking it all to a different level. Older brothers and sisters rocked to "Mother Popcorn" and "Karate Boogaloo" at a sweet-16 house party Just because you write or were in a movie or a book doesn't make you hip-hop, just like being able to spin on your head doesn't necessarily make you a b-boy. For the true hardcore, it's deeper and more spiritual. Words like "legend," "old school" and "pioneer" are not appropriated correctly these days.



P.H.A.S.E.2 tags for the camera.

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BUSY BEE

on the origins of hip-hop and the infamous "battle"

The word "hip-hop" came from Keith Cowboy. At that time, it was Grandmaster Flash and the three MCs, which was Keith Cowboy, Melle Mel and his brother Kid Creole. Billy was going into the Army, and Flash was giving a street party. Cowboy kept saying: "This is for Billy, going to the Army, left, right, hip, hop, don't stop, Billy!" It started right there. Mean Gene started as the understudy DJ with Grandmaster Flash. And he had two MCs, Kevie Kev and Robbie Rob—they were both brothers, and Theodore and Mean Gene were brothers. And by their last name being Livingston, they just called the whole crew "the L Brothers."

I would travel by myself to try and get my name built. And Mean Gene just happened to see me in the chicken joint, and he said: "Bee, you need to be down with us." And I was saying: "Well, you got your crew, you got Kevie Kev, you got Rob, you don't need me." Plus, at this time, Kevie Kev was like the star guy on their crew. I was thinkin' that they didn't actually need me. Gene said: "It's my group, and I want you down with it." So I became an L Brother. We were like the Beatles, and we used to crush everybody. We were pretty—like I'm still right now. We wore nice clothes. We were the greatest.

A friend of mine named David used to come to school with a Marlboro pack with 13 joints in 'em. And every day after lunch, he would come back looking Chinese when he was supposed to be Puerto Rican. I used to tell him: "You comin' back to class lookin' all cockeyed and retarded, and I don't know what you doin'."

Then, after school, we go in the gym behind the stage and light up. I'm coughing, don't know what's going on—and then, about 20 minutes later, I was scared of everything. I was so panicky. He said: "Just relax, don't start that, you can't go home now." It was so funny, because that was my first experience. That one joint, my whole body was like: "Oh, God, what did I do? I ain't doin' that no more!" Next day, I wanted more.

In 1981, there was an MC convention, and a lot of MCs was signing up to win a trophy or the \$500 cash prize and reputation for being the greatest for 10 minutes. And, prior to that, I had won all of them. And I would come last—they didn't want to go on after me. I had the name. I used to uplift the crowd, and I would keep a smile on their face. The host of the show was like, "Last, but not least—Busy Bee." And I got on. Then the guy was sayin' the contest is over, but one more rapper wanted to enter—and his name is Kool Moe Dee. "But Kool Moe Dee is in the Treacherous Three." "No, he not doin' the Treacherous Three, he's just going to do it by himself." So he got on the microphone, and the first thing he said was: "Okay, how many people like Busy Bee?" And everybody went bananas. "Well, I'm here because everybody say Busy Bee can't be beat, and Busy Bee keeps winning all these contests. Well, I'm here tonight to take him out." And he went into his snappin' thing. I'm downstairs, smokin' weed, drinkin' champagne, beatin' on the girls and chillin', you know? And my homeboys come down and say, "Biz! Kool Moe Dee is goin' crazy up there! This nigger is snappin' on you! You gotta go upstairs!" By the time I got upstairs, people was just goin' crazy. It was no battle—the way he said it, it was funny. The next day, the word went out like a tidal wave—I couldn't go no place. I mean, right now it's 2010, and that tape is still rockin' right now today. But it was no battle—it was sabotage.

For more: *Origins of Hip Hop with Busy Bee Starski*: youtube.com/watch?v=aBRXefG0Pbc
Kool Moe Dee Snaps on Busy Bee: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGMakc5eWfw>

GRAND WIZZARD THEODORE

inventor of scratching and the needle drop

I think it happened because of the poverty—the abandoned buildings, the way people were living with the drugs and stuff and, like, nothing really to do. Music was a way out for everybody. And it got to the point where everybody started gettin' into it. And as time went by, our way of expression kept elevating, it kept goin' to different levels, and it became hip-hop. You could express yourself through graffiti or MCing or DJing. I remember, when I first went to see Herc throw a block party, I was like: "Wow!" He had the big giant speakers, and the sound system was like really, really crazy. So after I heard Herc, I was hooked. I was like, "This is what I want to do!"

Hip-hop came from nothin'—it was just a way for us to express ourselves. We wasn't worried about what it was gonna become. It was just a way for us to celebrate. Grandmaster Flash made a break that was three seconds long and extended it to however long he wanted. He would backspin the record and get it back to the part that he needed. And then I came up with the techniques called scratchin' and the needle drop, where I could just pick the needle up and drop it on the part of the record that I needed. Me and Flash were the only people that was takin' DJing to the next level.

When I first did scratchin', there was nobody in the house but me. I was making a cassette tape for my school. And the music was really loud in the house, so my mom busts in the room: "Hey, turn the music down or turn the music off!" When she was talkin' to me, I was still holding the record, rubbing it back and forth with both turntables playin' at the same time. I didn't have no earphones on. When she left, I rewound the tape and heard myself doin' it and just capitalized off of it. Then my brother Mean Gene couldn't find Flash for two or three weeks. Nobody heard from him—we pretty much thought he was dead. My brother wanted to throw a block party, so he said, "Eff this, I'm going to do the block party." He let me jump on the turntables, and everybody got to see what I can really do.

Hip-hop today doesn't have no soul—it's gotten to the point where you have these record companies tryin' to dictate to us what hip-hop is. You take an 18-year-old kid, and he want to talk about how many people he killed and how many drugs he sellin' on the street. That's what they want to put out instead of puttin' out music to make people feel good. They let Public Enemy roll for a little while, and they just tried to get rid of them. I think it should be a balance. I mean, play Lil Wayne on the radio, but also play Slick Rick and Dougie Fresh. Play everything so everything can be rounded off. The first generation of hip-hop, we're not getting our proper respect. We elevated everything. ✨

For more: *Birth of the Scratch*: [youtube.com/watch?v=4JBa6w00HI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4JBa6w00HI)

Grand Wizzard Theodore at the T Connection in the Bronx, 1980.





Bob examines the photo props at a HIGH TIMES shoot.



HIGH TIMES WITH BOB MARLEY

Story by Jeff Walker, Photos by Kim Gottlieb-Walker

During 1975 and 1976, renowned underground photojournalist Kim Gottlieb and her husband, Island Records publicity head Jeff Walker, documented what is now widely regarded as the golden age of reggae. Over two years of historic trips to Jamaica and exclusive meetings in Los Angeles, Kim took iconic photographs of the artists who would go on to define the genre and captivate a generation. Their new book, *Bob Marley and the Golden Age of Reggae* (Titan Books), recounts that journey and provides many never-before-seen pictures of reggae luminaries, including Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer, Toots Hibbert, Burning Spear, Jacob Miller, Third World, Lee "Scratch" Perry—and, of course, Bob Marley. On the occasion of HIGH TIMES' 420th issue, enjoy these unpublished outtakes from the photo shoot that Bob did for our legendary September 1978 cover.

1976 was a banner year for both Bob Marley and Island's overall reggae campaign. *Burnin'* and *Catch a Fire* were both reissued early in the year, and we released *Rastaman Vibration* on April 30 (which would reach No. 8 on

Bob and Wailers
percussionist Seeco
Patterson twist one up.



Bob in contemplation.





Bob and Seeco representing the herb.



Bob chops up herb for another spliff.



BOB WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT AN OFFER TO BE ON THE COVER OF HIGH TIMES. AND HE READILY AGREED TO DO A PHOTO SHOOT.

Billboard's Top Albums chart].

And, having been personally invited by Pete Townshend, Toots and the Maytals were in the midst of an American tour opening for The Who after Island released their now-classic album, *Reggae Got Soul*.

Toots was also one of the sweetest, most energetic and determined people I've ever known—and the only reggae performer who came close to being the kind of "showman" that James Brown personified onstage.

Island was also releasing the landmark soundtrack album from Perry Henzell and Jimmy Cliff's *The Harder They Come*, as well as the Heptones' *Night Food*, Burning Spear's roots classic *Marcus Garvey*, Jimmy Cliff's *Strugglin' Man*, Max Romeo's *War in a Babylon*, Dillinger's *CB200* and Third World's self-titled debut album.

The Wailers' "Rastaman Vibration" tour began in April 1976, and I joined up with them in Philadelphia, where Bob and I talked about that year's tour publicity and some interviews we had planned when he got to LA. The band arrived in LA on May 26 to play the Roxy again, this time with Donald Kinsey on guitar and all three of the I-Three. This was one of the greatest performances I had ever seen Bob give. I also had the privilege of introducing Bob to a Beatle, and his reaction was an enthusiastic "Ras Beatle!"—face to face with Ringo as they greeted each other. Alas, this meeting took place in the dark recesses of On the Rox, the secret party floor above the Roxy, and no pictures were ever taken.

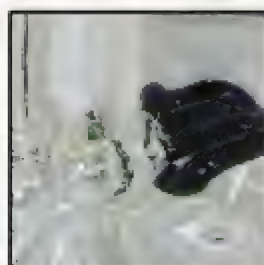
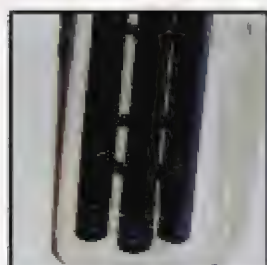
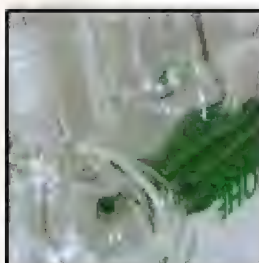
During some down time between the Roxy and the Santa Barbara County Bowl, Kim and I went to Bob's hotel to shoot a private session for the now-iconic *HIGH TIMES* cover that would feature Bob smiling over a mound of herb. His delight that afternoon is pretty evident in these never-before-seen photos of that session.

Two days later, as the sun set on Bob Marley as he neared the end of his outdoor concert at the Santa Barbara County Bowl, none of us could have imagined what lay ahead in the next few years—from the attempt on Bob's life in his home as he was rehearsing for the "Smile Jamaica" concert (meant to help simmer down a very tense political climate in Kingston) to the diagnosis of the cancer that would eventually take his life way too soon. But on that day in Santa Barbara, in an idyllic setting, Bob was at the peak of his powers, and his legend would only continue to grow. ✨

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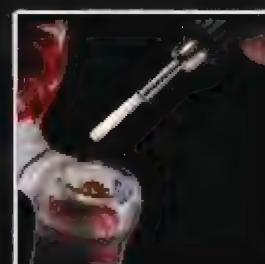


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KINKY THINK

What Would Kinky Do?

Kinky Friedman

(St. Martin's Press)

★★★★★

Heroes of a Texas Childhood

Kinky Friedman

(Kismet Press)

★★★★★

To characterize Kinky Friedman as "eclectic" would be an understatement: The country singer/mystery novelist/cigar entrepreneur/gubernatorial candidate/humorist has excelled at everything he's tried. Here are the Kinkster's two latest tomes, and they're as smart and funny as all the rest. You expect something at least interesting from a man who sleeps in bed with four dogs (as well as a cat on his head), and whose avowed subversive duty is to "irritate the hall monitors." (I have to be careful not to quote Kinky too often or he'll expect to be paid for this review.)



Kinky is as kinky does.

His fans know he's smart and funny, but what chroniclers miss in describing him is how soulful the wisecracking He-brew-hyphenate is. *Heroes ...* is a revealing look into his character, formed by the many influences of his youth. There are chapters devoted to his father and his babysitter, as well as to old-school liberal Texas politicians (it's *not* an oxymoron) like Ralph Yarborough and Ann Richards, Alamo casualties like Davy Crockett, and Lone Star historians like J. Frank Dobie. The Friedman litmus test for heroism is a devotion to the cause of underdogs and a determination to do what thou wilt while telling the critics to go to hell.

Likewise, *What Would Kinky Do?* is a paean to another of his life's idols—himself. (Kinky's admitted that he can't go longer than five minutes without talking about the subject.) A collection of odds and ends—magazine columns, liner notes, book reviews—it functions as an autobiography by someone who's too attention-deficit-disordered to sit down and write one. Indeed, there's more information contained herein than I can repeat in such a short space—but besides his musical career with the Texas Jewboys and his adventures in literature and attempted public service, Kinky recalls a childhood memory of his father's friend, whose testicle was once hang-

ing for all to see from the poor guy's swimsuit. "You don't see people's testicles hanging out of their bathing suits much anymore," the author notes.

And in an era that rewards conformists with political office and airheads with celebrity status, we don't get singular worldviews like Kinky's much anymore. As for these books: Read 'em and roar.—**Michael Simmons**

Eminem

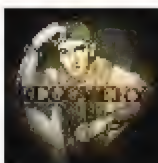
Recovery

(Aftermath/Interscope/Shady)

★★★★★

Eminem (a.k.a. Marshall Mathers) may no longer be one big step ahead of the curve, but the iconic Detroit rap sensation still boggles the mind with his indignant wordplay. During the '90s, the smirking freestyle satirist shocked the world by proving that a fragile white dude could stand up to hard-hitting hip-hop guiding lights like the Notorious B.I.G., Tupac and Snoop Dogg. But after a self-imposed three-year retirement, his ranting, celebrity-stoked diatribes took a backseat to more personalized escapades on 2009's purging *Relapse*—a reasonable response to a second divorce and an ongoing rehab stint.

A year later, the cleaned-up superstar continues to tone down the audacious banter for the frantic abolition of *Recovery*. Even if his snipping, quick-spit rhymes don't always cut as deep as they once did, Eminem's definitely retained enough skill to thrill. Yet it's the internal pain caused by ruinous prescription-drug abuse (Valium, Vicodin, Ambien) that gets frontline attention here. Ultimately, he plays a sympathetic loner whose sardonic streak has turned reflectively inward. When he's not wallowing in grief-stricken pain, the apologetic wordsmith searches for redemption in "Talkin' 2 Myself" and "Won't Back Down." His validating promissory note, "Not Afraid," invites faithful fans to join hands on the long journey back to sobriety. But that's not to say he still can't become a "loose cannon" sticking daggers into anyone who gets in the way on the righteous opening salvo, "Cold Wind Blows." Once the chief voice of authority for documenting our scandalous contemporary culture (and also propagating antagonistic jilts), Eminem's currently convalescing as a bruised and battered survivor.—**John Fortunato**



Underworld

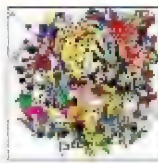
Barking

(Cooking Vinyl)

★★★★★

Usually, dance-music artists don't have to worry about growing old. Even in a musical environment where you're only as good as your last Mixcloud, producers can continue to DJ and release tracks for as long as they can make people move—which means the emergence of fatigue in a heritage dance act's sound can often be far subtler. In Underworld's case, they've also got the added burden of living up to a legacy of stadium electronica smashes, from "Born Slippy" to "Cowgirl," that gave birth to the term "progressive house." Nowadays, they've got a whole bunch of snot-nosed electro hipsters to contend with—and since founding partner/DJ Darren Emerson's no longer around to help them make sense of it, they've recruited Paul Van Dyk, Deep Dish's Dubfire and other collaborators to flesh out the productions for their latest LP. But while there's fun to be had on it, *Barking* smacks of diminishing returns.

Vocalist Karl Hyde, for one thing, is still plugging away with his rhythmic-doggerel free-verse shtick, so there's nothing new there—plus the productions that surround him are highly variable. The Paul Van Dyk collaboration, "Diamond Jigsaw," with its guitar-driven melody and commercial-soundtrack-ready feelgood chorus, may be the blandest thing they've ever recorded. And even the better tracks, like the quirky wobble of "Hamburg Hotel" and the hands-in-the-air uplift of "Scribble," make one wonder where the group's once easily recognizable style has gone. Judging from "Louisiana," the album closer, it's taking a distressing snooze in a field where sleeping is prohibited.—**Justin Hampton**



Wiz Khalifa

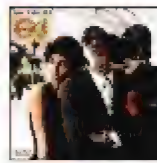
Kush and Orange Juice

(Taylor Gang/Rostrum Records)

★★★★★

Kush and Orange Juice plays up Pittsburgh MC Wiz Khalifa's daily indulgence of marijuana, women (often someone else's), fashion (primarily Louis Vuitton) and the player life. The album was strategically released a week before 4/20—and, soon after, the tag #kushandorangejuice became Twitter's No. 1 trending topic. No surprise there: Since his first mixtape, *Prince of the City: Welcome to Pistorvania* (2005), the former Warner Bros. artist (circa 2007 to '09) has maintained a habit of attempting to unify the weed-smoking universe.

On the flute-driven track "The Statement," Wiz Khalifa opines: "We belong on the top but we ain't trippin' / 'Cause we'll get there in a minute" (and also: "At my hotel chillin' / Bad women coming for my marijuana prescription"). On the top-down, cool-out track "Spotlight," he boasts: "No joint roaches in my car / Play the game smart, we gonna get this cheese / Don't give police a reason to fuck us all." He also reminds fans of his player mentality: "While you at home on Twitter trying to hack in her page and shit / We smoking and cracking jokes at how lame you is." The Kush theme continues accordingly on "In the Cut," with "rolling doobies up" and "I always keep one rolled" as part of the sped-up track's chorus. But possibly the most risqué track is "We're Done," which samples Demi Lovato's Disney pop-rock song "Our Time Is Here." All in all, *Kush & OJ* offers a tastefully eclectic blend of various musical rhythms and melodies that make for easy listening, every bit of it aimed to take you higher.—**Tru**





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THE GREAT HIPPIE DEBATE

Two sides square off to determine what legacy the flower children deserve. By Paul Krassner

At the Winnipeg Comedy Festival, I participated in a fake debate played strictly for laughs. The resolution: “Whereas they were mostly disheveled, disorganized and doped up, be it resolved that the hippies of the ‘60s accomplished nothing.”

Comedian Bruce Clark took the affirmative position. “Don’t get me wrong,” he argued, “I like hippies. Some of my best friends are squeegee kids. In fact, it would be a better place if hippies were running the world. And when I say ‘running the world,’ what I really mean is harvesting the marijuana. It would be a kinder, gentler society, but let’s be honest: Nothing would ever get done. Unless you think it’s an accomplishment to stare at your own hand for an hour or tie-dye your cat.

“Hippies often gave their children names associated with hippie culture, names like Sky, Rain, Sunshine and Autumn. I thought it was because of their respect for nature, but it’s actually something else that’s associated with hippies: being homeless. I didn’t figure that out myself; I heard it from the son of hippie parents and a good friend of mine—Spare Change. He’s not happy with the name, but his sister, Dumpster Diver, is *livid*.

“Hippies justify their counterculture lifestyle by pointing to the man they call the ‘original hippie,’ Jesus. I gotta say I agree: Jesus had long hair, he wore sandals, he was anti-establishment, and he hung around with a dozen other guys who never seemed to have a job. And he must have been stoned to hang around with all those lepers. I’ll concede the fact that Christ was a hippie—but I doubt that Jesus made his wine out of bong water.

“Unless we employ revisionist history, there’s no evidence to suggest hippies accomplished anything. Grace Slick, the lead singer of Jefferson Airplane, said it best when she said: ‘If you remember the ‘60s, you probably weren’t there.’ And if you *were* there, you’re probably too old to remember them. Hippies have added little to the world. It would be a great MasterCard commercial: ‘Used Volkswagen bus, \$600. Incense, \$10. Collection of Grateful Dead eight-tracks, \$6. Being a hippie: useless.’”

Then came my rebuttal.

“In the aftermath of the repression and blandness of the 1950s,” I argued, “hippies exploded onto the scene, deriving their entire philosophy from Celestial Seasonings teabag boxes. At its core, the counterculture was a spiritual revolution: The holy trinity was sex, drugs and rock’n’roll. But the fundamental accomplishment of hippies was that they cared for each other. This characteristic was crystallized at



The heritage of hippies is not viewed favorably by all.

Woodstock by an announcer warning the audience: ‘Do not take the brown acid!’

“Timothy Leary, a cheerleader for the hippie movement, was the guru of LSD, a chemical compound that he considered to be a vehicle for expanding consciousness. Leary even wanted to experience consciousness after his death. He planned to have his head frozen so that someday

technology would enable him to be cloned from his own cells. And if that didn’t work, his head could always be used on *Celebrity Bowling*.

“After I took my first acid trip, I told my mother about it. She was very concerned—she said, ‘It could lead to marijuana.’ My mother was right. She cautioned me, ‘And marijuana could become a habit.’ Indeed, when *HIGH TIMES* published a questionnaire, one of the questions was ‘Is it possible to smoke too much pot?’ And a reader responded: ‘I don’t understand the question.’

“Socrates said, ‘Know thyself.’ Norman Mailer said, ‘Be thyself.’ And the hippie movement said, ‘Change thyself.’ Many hippies changed their names as a symbolic act of their independence from mainstream society. The editor of a psychedelic paper, *The Oracle*, changed his name to Siddhartha and joined a commune, where they all called him Sid—they thought his name was Sid Arthur.

“Hippies not only developed a humane value system, they also lived their alternative, based on cooperation rather than competition. They served as harbingers of organic farming, alternative medicine, women’s liberation, environmental pro-activity—and hippie theme parks.

“That old hippie maxim of the 1960s, ‘Make Love, Not War,’ is as relevant today as it was then—literally. Aging male hippies don’t seem to have any problem with erectile dysfunction; they just worry that it’s really rigor mortis setting in on the installment plan. I imagine myself emceeing the Geezerstock Festival, standing on an outdoor stage, looking out at a vast audience of gray-haired hippies with paunches and wearing granny glasses. ‘Are you having fun? I can’t hear you! No, I mean I really can’t hear you! And now I’d like to introduce the Rolling Stones before they gather any more moss. Oh, wait, I’ve just been handed an announcement: ‘Warning: Do not take the brown antacid!’”

Judging by the audience applause, the moderator declared me the winner of the debate. I’ll smoke to that. ✨

Paul Krassner publishes the infamous “Disneyland Memorial Orgy” poster. Come visit Minnie Mouse—who’s fucking Goofy—at paulkrassner.com.

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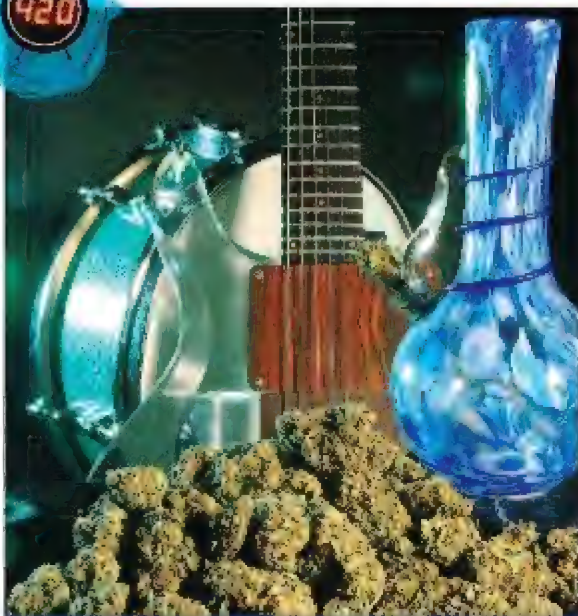
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MISS JANUARY

NAME: Clazina **AGE:** 23
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BY BOBBY BLACK

COLOR ME KOZIK

can't help but think back to our first-ever 420 Collector's Special a decade ago. It was our May 2000 edition, and it happens to be one of my all-time favorite issues for several reasons. For one thing, it contained my stoner rock feature "It's Only Rawk & Roll"—the story that enabled

me to travel to California for the first time. On that trip, I not only got to see and party with about a dozen killer bands, I also got to interview one of my personal heroes: rock-poster artist extraordinaire Frank Kozik.

It was warm and beautiful in San Francisco that morning, which is why I made the mistake of attempting to trek down to Frank's studio on foot—foolishly expecting (like only a New Yorker would) that if I grew tired, I'd simply hail a cab. Instead, I soon found myself hopelessly lost in the deserted wasteland that is the East Bay industrial area, on what had to be the hottest day of the year. Feet aching, throat parched, body drenched in sweat, I was beginning to lose heart. And then I heard it—from the distance behind me, a low roar, then a rumble, growing closer, louder, building in vibration and volume. I squinted into the horizon, and then I saw them—an army of Harleys a thousand strong, like an earthquake on wheels ripping toward me from as far as the eye could see. Knowing that Kozik rode a hog himself, I mused wearily that perhaps fate had sent them to show me the way. I followed the caravan down Third Street, to a local watering hole on the corner of 22nd called the Dogpatch Saloon, and inquired within. Sure enough, I'd made the right call—turned out that Kozik's place was directly across the street from the bar.

Taking up an entire floor of the waterfront warehouse, his studio space was a fanboy's wet dream—smothered in rare posters, stickers, comics, toys and an entire display case full of Zippos. After a quick tour of the print room and the rest of the floor, we settled in at his desk, where I spent about two hours picking his brain as he inhaled some McDonald's and Marlboros.

Juxtaposing images of fetishism and fascism with childlike cartoon characters, pairing violence, vice and vulgarity with innocence, ennui and the iconic, Kozik has created some of the most memorable and mesmerizing posters and album covers in rock history. From punk legends like the Sex Pistols and Iggy Pop to guitar greats like Dick Dale and Eric Clapton, from

Chili Peppers to metal masters like Slayer and Soundgarden, he's worked with them all.

But Kozik wasn't content to rest on his artistic achievements. Eventually, he "got bored doing the poster thing" and decided to start his own indie label—Man's Ruin Records. Between



Our first 420-themed issue. Illustrated by Frank Kozik.

1994 and 2002, this underground media mogul designed and put out over 200 releases (mostly collector's items like colored vinyls), including the much-sought-after *Desert Sessions*—all-star jams featuring members of stoner rock luminaries like Kyuss, Fu Manchu, Nebula, Monster Magnet and Soundgarden.

As both a disciple of stoner rock and an avid poster collector, Kozik was something akin to a demigod for me. When I started studying graphic design in college, the first projects I

began creating were my own rock posters. During my 16-year tenure here at HT, I've designed tons of event posters and flyers, and Kozik has always remained my biggest influence.

After the interview, he let me browse through his vast inventory and take pretty much whatever I wanted—including the metallic gold poster for his Man's Ruin showcase at the Justice League club that I'd seen the night before. (It now hangs framed above my mantel.) Before leaving, I asked him if he'd consider doing an exclusive illustration for that issue—and he agreed. A few weeks later, a disc arrived; on it was a layered, digitized illustration of a jolly green she-devil wearing only a giant pot leaf with a 420-tiled background behind her. After a little debate and a lot of cajoling, the publisher and art director agreed to not only make it the cover, but to let me do the layout.

Which brings me back to why that 420 Collectors' Special is so special to me: It was the first and only HIGH TIMES cover I ever commissioned and designed myself—and, as it turns out, the last time we've had an illustration on the cover. Of course, being who we are, few cover images can compete with the holy herb itself when it comes to sales figures. Nevertheless, though it may not have been one of our biggest-selling issues, it's without a doubt one of the most unique and iconic. ★

For more about poster art, turn to page 52. To read the original Kozik interview and see a gallery of Bobby's poster designs, go to hightimes.com/almostinfamous. For more on Frank Kozik, go to tkozik.com.

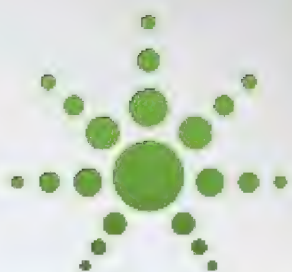
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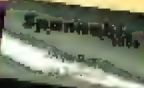
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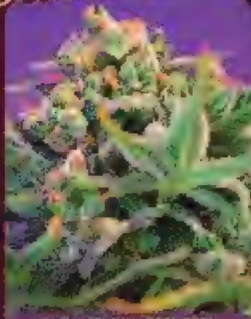
Automatic feminised variety. The beginning of its flowering does not depend on season or photoperiod; therefore it can be grown all year round. Extremely fast flowering, its height does not exceed 80 cm. Sweet aroma, hints of cheese and yeast

Speed Devil

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Sweet Cheese

New



It's a fusion between two high-grade strains, Cheese x Black Jack. The genetics highlight the virtues of its ancestors, giving a new twist to the aromas and flavour of the Black Jack. It produces long central buds surrounded by plenty of peripheral buds that are also long and of good quality. Its high productivity added to a new and revolutionary flavour - a slight taste of mature cheese and spice - makes Sweet Cheese a recommended option for those who seek new flavours and aromas. Regarding the effects, it is important to remember that we're dealing with a mix of two of the big hitters in cannabis genetics. Its effect is strong and long lasting, inducing euphoria and a feeling of relaxation.

Indica/Sativa: 30%-70%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Mid-late October.

3 seeds \$41.59 / 5 seeds \$70.25 / 10 seeds \$140.51

Snow Fruit

New



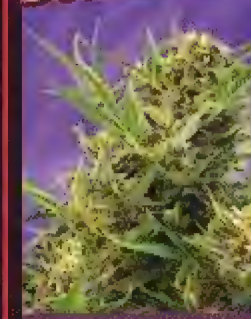
Sweet Seeds present the abominable plant of the snow! It has predominantly indica genetics that, in our opinion, have rarely been seen before. This strain has an exaggerated development of the lateral branches. Because of this just one plant can occupy an extensive area of cultivation and produce a huge harvest on its own. It produces succulent and compact buds thanks to its long sativa. While it blooms it exhibits a charming range of colours in its foliage, with shades of green, magenta, red, and purple... It also develops a big mantle of trichomes in the flowering branch and throughout its foliage during this phase. It's a strong strain, with a very short intermodal distance and strong stalks that help it to resist the windy conditions of outdoor growing. While fresh, its aroma is reminiscent of a mix of mint and fruits of the forest, with a slight flavour of toasted almonds and humus. Its effects are very strong and relaxing due to its high percentage of THC and CBD. This is a strain of high medicinal quality.

Indica/Sativa: 90%-10%.
Indoor Blooming: 8 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September.

3 seeds \$35.85 / 5 seeds \$60.24 / 10 seeds \$114.75

Double White

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This is the result of crossing two elite clones selected around the year 2000. White Widow and Great White Shark, which are the two most appreciated and famous of the White family. Genetics characteristics include easy growth, strong effect, extraordinary taste and high production of trichome covered buds. In short, this is a plant with which it is easy to get good results. It's a vigorous and strong plant, with short internodes and a very resistant structure. This allows easy control of its growth during which the blooming of the buds join together to form a long tail. Its aroma is very pleasant and powerful, with slight tastes of sweet and sour, fresh and floral. The effect is also strong and typical of the indica-sativa hybrids.

Indica/Sativa: 60%-40%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Mid-late October.

3 seeds \$20.58 / 5 seeds \$50.19 / 10 seeds \$100.38

Cream Caramel



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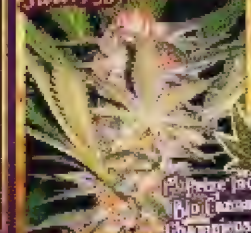


Indica/Sativa: 90%-10%.
Indoor Blooming: 8-9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September, beginning of October.

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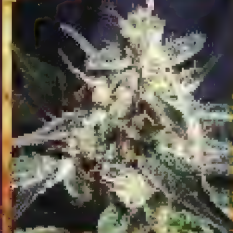


Indica/Sativa: 90%-10%.
Indoor Blooming: 8-9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September.

1st Prize Indoor Cannabis Champions Cup

3s. \$21.50 / 5s. \$43.02 / 10s. \$86.04

Black Jack



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Indica/Sativa: 50%-50%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Beginning of October.

3s. \$27.24 / 5s. \$48.76 / 10s. \$97.52

Jack 47

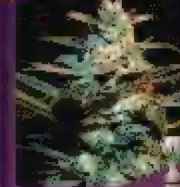


Hybrid between the two most powerful varieties of all time, Jack Herer x AK 47. Very high production with a very intense effect. Excellent force, the plant produces big buds full of resins. Sweet and incensed aroma.

Indica/Sativa: 25%-75%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 and a half weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of October.

3s. \$43.02 / 5s. \$71.71 / 10s. \$143.42

Ice Cool



Developed starting from a NYC Diesel line, powerful with high production with a particular and strong blue cypress tone and exotic smell. Indica's plant structure with a strong euphoric effect that shows the presence of sativa in its genetic heritage.

Indica/Sativa: 40%-60%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September.

3s. \$47.33 / 5s. \$86.84 / 10s. \$173.68

Green Poison



Hybrid variety principally indica with very high production. Excellent taste and aroma. Thanks to its quick flowering, it anticipates fungal attacks. Flowery and fruity taste.

Indica/Sativa: 70%-30%.
Indoor Blooming: 7 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Mid to late September.

3s. \$33.98 / 5s. \$54.60 / 10s. \$109

Sweet Tai

Super Tai x Early Skunk
Indica/Sativa: 30%-70%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September, Beginning of October.

3s. \$21.50 / 5s. \$43.02 / 10s. \$86.04

Wild Rose

Rosetta Stone x HOG
Indica/Sativa: 35%-65%.
Indoor Blooming: 9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Mid to late of October.

3s. \$29.88 / 5s. \$50.19 / 10s. \$100.38

Mohan Ram

White Widow x S.A.D. S.I.
Indica/Sativa: 85%-15%.
Indoor Blooming: 8 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September.

3s. \$26.68 / 5s. \$50.19 / 10s. \$100.38

Psicodelicia

U.S.A Clones x Nepal's Plant
Indica/Sativa: 30%-70%.
Indoor Blooming: 8-9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September, Beginning of October.

3s. \$25.81 / 5s. \$47.33 / 10s. \$94.66

Ganesh Spirit

Sativa clone from Northern India's mountains
Indica/Sativa: 40%-60%.
Indoor Blooming: 8 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Beginning-mid October.

3s. \$26.68 / 5s. \$50.19 / 10s. \$100.38

Flash Back #2

FLO x White Widow
Indica/Sativa: 40%-60%.
Indoor Blooming: 8-9 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: End of September, Beginning of October.

3s. \$24.37 / 5s. \$45.09 / 10s. \$90.18

Botafumeiros

Asian ancestry and Haze
Indica/Sativa: 25%-75%.
Indoor Blooming: 10 weeks.
Outdoor Harvest: Mid to late October.

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Psicodelicia

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Green Poison

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Danny Danko travels in search of the mysterious truth behind the murky history of the legendary cannabis variety known as the Kush.



The Story of KUSH



ORIGINS OF THE KUSH

The disputed region known as the Hindu Kush shares its boundaries with Pakistan and Afghanistan just north of Indian-controlled Jammu and Kash-

mir. The area has long been known for its ongoing conflicts as well as its history of cannabis and hashish production. Part of the legendary Himalayas mountain range, the fertile valleys and hillsides of the Hindu Kush have, for centuries, produced the world's finest hash. Years of natural and human selection for the most resinous, *indica*-dominant plants have resulted in short, stocky bushes covered with huge, shiny trichomes.

In the 1960s and early '70s, intrepid travelers on the "Hippie Trail" (including members of the Brotherhood of Eternal Love) returned to the US, Canada and Europe with primo seeds and began growing Afghani, Skunk and Kush strains in earnest. Sadly, in 1973, bowing to pressure from the United States, the newly self-appointed president of Afghanistan, who took power in a bloodless coup against the long-serving and hashish-friendly Afghan king, declared the production and sale of hashish illegal. He was overthrown by Afghan Communists in 1978, and the country was invaded by the Soviets in 1979, sparking another 30 years of warfare and bloodshed that continue to this day.

The Afghani hashish of the pre-war era remains legendary among older heads, and the strains that it spawned changed the cannabis growing scene completely. The *indica*-dominant genetics shortened typical flowering times, allowing plants to be grown all the way up to Alaska. In the process, the concept of "homegrown" changed from a term of derision to a point of pride.

KUSH AND THE HIGH TIMES CANNABIS CUP

Many Kush varieties have won prizes for their breeders at our annual pot-tasting festival in Amsterdam each November. From the original Skunks of the 1980s to the Kushage, Vanilla and Kaia Kush of the current era, the strain's potency and flavor are undeniable. While Haze varieties dominate the *sativa* category in the seed-bank contest, Kushes traditionally prevail among the *indicas*. Kush strains have also provided the genetic basis for many perennial winners that don't have the word "Kush" in their names, such as White Widow, Sensi Star and AK-47.

Breeders know that one of the best ways to wow discerning judges is to use genetics laden with Afghani heritage. Long prized for its medicinal properties, this is the bud known for its "couchlock"—a perfect strain for an evening nightcap, but also one capable of changing all your plans when puffed at midday. The intense citrus flavor, skunky odor and extremely long-lasting stone aren't soon forgotten.

The Kush and the HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup have a long and storied history—one that's guaranteed to continue for many years to come. Future Cups are sure to be won by plants bearing these illustrious genetics, and much of the best hashish in Holland continues to be made from these strains as well. Plus the centuries-long Afghan tradition of separating the trichomes from Kush plants to press into bricks of tasty hash has persisted into the 21st century worldwide.

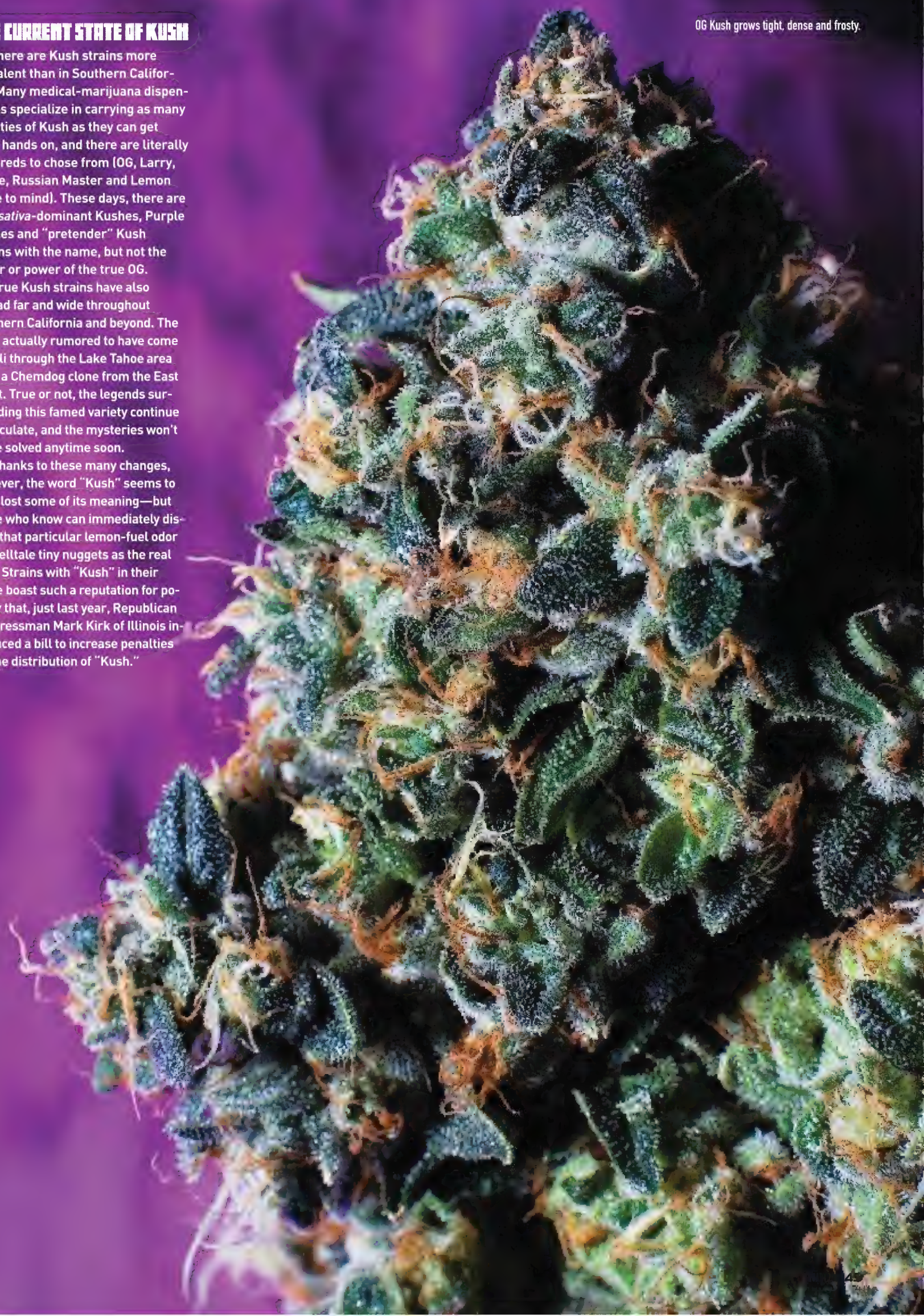
THE CURRENT STATE OF KUSH

Nowhere are Kush strains more prevalent than in Southern California. Many medical-marijuana dispensaries specialize in carrying as many varieties of Kush as they can get their hands on, and there are literally hundreds to choose from (OG, Larry, Tahoe, Russian Master and Lemon come to mind). These days, there are also *sativa*-dominant Kushes, Purple Kushes and “pretender” Kush strains with the name, but not the flavor or power of the true OG.

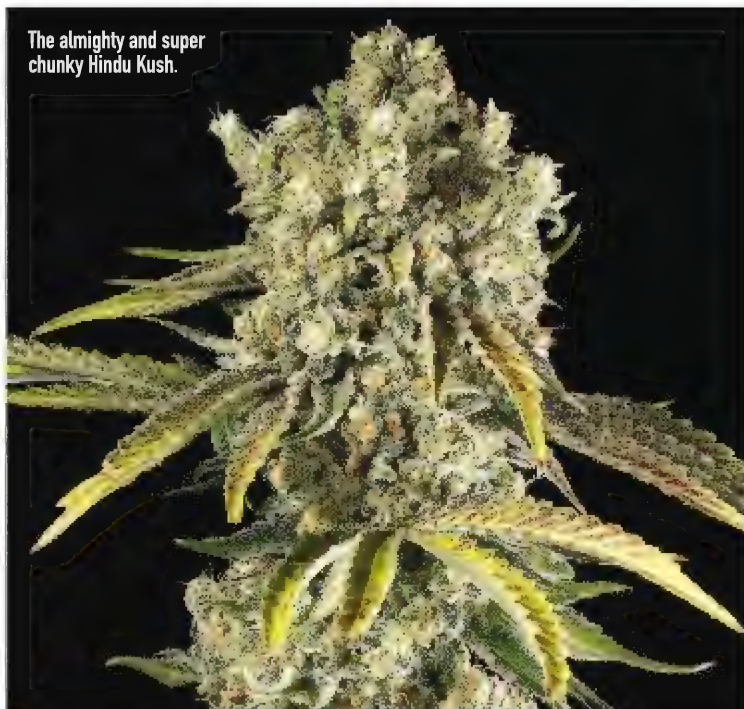
True Kush strains have also spread far and wide throughout Northern California and beyond. The OG is actually rumored to have come to Cali through the Lake Tahoe area from a Chemdog clone from the East Coast. True or not, the legends surrounding this famed variety continue to circulate, and the mysteries won't all be solved anytime soon.

Thanks to these many changes, however, the word “Kush” seems to have lost some of its meaning—but those who know can immediately discern that particular lemon-fuel odor and telltale tiny nuggets as the real deal. Strains with “Kush” in their name boast such a reputation for potency that, just last year, Republican Congressman Mark Kirk of Illinois introduced a bill to increase penalties for the distribution of “Kush.”

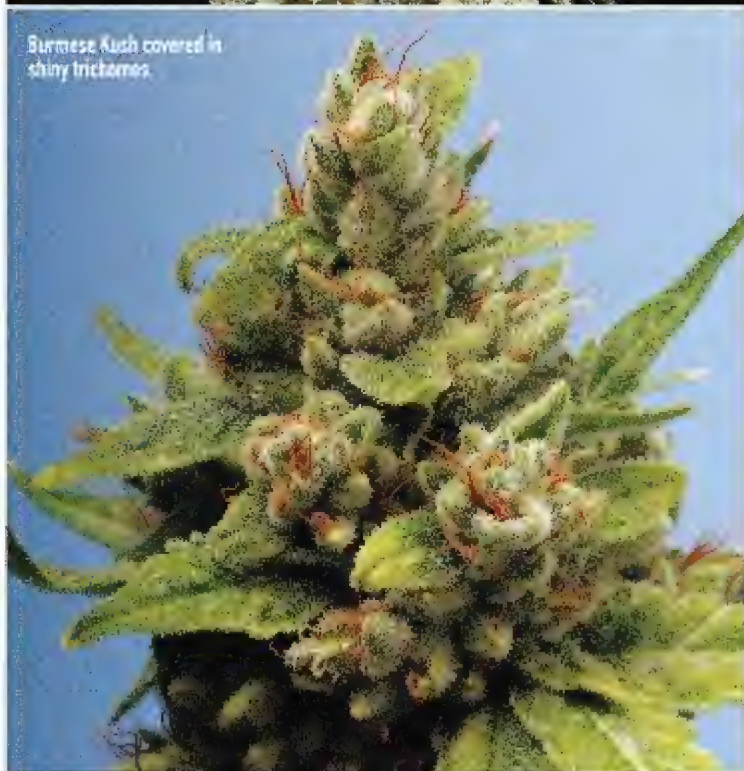
OG Kush grows tight, dense and frosty.



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Burmese Kush covered in shiny trichomes.



Growers and smokers love Vanilla Kush.



DANNY DANKO'S TOP 10 KUSH STRAINS

(Excerpted from the forthcoming book, *The Official HIGH TIMES Field Guide to Marijuana Strains*.)

HINDU KUSH

SENSI SEED BANK

Pure *indicas* tend to knock people out, but Sensi's famous Hindu Kush has a more desirable zesty quality to it, as well as a rich, hashy smoke that tickles the nose and enlightens the senses. This odiferous strain has a super-short flowering time, coupled with the ability to start filling out right away for big, fast yields. Great for beginners and experts alike, Hindu Kush is known for its pungent notes of sweetness followed by hints of sandalwood, which distinguish it from the Kush we know and love in the USA.

Ken from Sensi Seeds calls their Hindu Kush "a classic, definitive *indica* sometimes referred to as 'Afghanica,' with the characteristic wide, dark green leaves and strong branching that make it an excellent building block for serious and hobbyist breeders." Indeed, cannabis botanists worldwide use a Sensi Seeds Hindu Kush male in their programs for stability. It also makes terrific hash with an old-school scent and flavor.

Lineage: Indian landrace from the Hindu Kush mountains

Flowering time: 6 to 7 weeks

Contact: Sensi Seed Bank, sensiseeds.com

BURMESE KUSH

T.H. SEEDS

HIGH TIMES Top 10 Strain, 2007

T.H. Seeds have earned a stellar reputation for bringing the best of California's genetics to Amsterdam and beyond. This proud tradition continues with their latest offering, the Burmese Kush (lovingly referred to as "Buku"). One of the most resinous strains available at coffeeshops in Holland, Buku is the result of crossing an authentic Burmese Kush with the clone-only OG Kush so well known in the Los Angeles area. As one might expect, the results are super "kushy," with the telltale dark green leaves and unique piney flavor inherent in the Kush family of strains.

Anyone who smokes the real-deal Kush in Cali knows its tart diesel flavor and incredibly euphoric high. Combine those with a short flowering time and easy-to-trim profile, and you'll understand why we're cuckoo for Buku. Adam from T.H. Seeds suggests savoring the instantaneous effects of this strain in a nice clean bong filled with ice-cold water.

Lineage: Burmese Kush x OG Kush

Flowering time: 7 to 8 weeks

Contact: T.H. Seeds, thseeds.com

VANILLA KUSH

BARNEY'S FARM

2nd place HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup 2009

Vanilla Kush proves the adage that not all *indica*-dominant strains are created equal. It's hard to nail down the intoxicating scent these buds exhibit upon grinding, which is both complex and varied: Vanilla and sandalwood compete with citrus and lavender as they dance upon the palate. The smoke is full-bodied and sensuous, with the strong medicinal properties associated with heavy-duty Kushes. The higher-than-usual CBD content will especially soothe certain symptoms, such as severe headaches or muscle spasms.

When cultivated, Vanilla Kush boasts dark red hairs surrounding tight, frosty clusters. Even the fan leaves are crystal-coated almost out to the tips, and the buds fill out quite nicely. It's a strain that's also available these days in feminized form. Medicinal patients report immediate relief from smoking or vaporizing the Vanilla Kush—another sure-fire prizewinner from Barney's Farm.

Lineage: unknown

Flowering time: 9 weeks

Contact: Barney's Farm, barneysfarm.com

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GARDEN OF EATIN'



Sour Kush represents the best of Diesel and OG Kush genes.

SOUR KUSH (a.k.a. Headband)

DNA GENETICS

3rd Place HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup 2009

East Coast residents familiar with the strain known as "Headband" will be quite excited to know that the "breeding bros" of DNA Genetics have released a superb version of this famous Diesel and Kush cross. Their Headband won third place at the 2009 HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup for the Green Place Coffeeshop under the name "Headband Kush," earning it the first of what will undoubtedly be many more awards.

Don tells me that they reversed the OG Kush to pollinate the Sour Diesel, and he assures growers that they'll find a great mother plant out of a pack of 10 beans. Luckily, cloning this strain is easy too, with roots popping out within eight to 10 days of cutting. Headband possesses the familiar diesel-fuel smell and sour lemon taste and starts producing resin glands early and often, exemplifying the best qualities of its elite parentage.

Lineage: Sour Diesel x OG Kush

Flowering time: 9 weeks

Contact: DNA Genetics, dnagenetics.com

When S.A.G.E. meets OG Kush, flavor and power ensue.

KUSHAGE

T.H. SEEDS

3rd Place HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup Sativa, 2005

Another sinsemilla stalwart from the T.H. Seeds collection, the Kushage has an epic high—one that hits almost instantly and has both staying power and that familiar Kush headiness. Even beginners will find her easy to grow and work with, resisting many of the common pests and pitfalls that plague first-time farmers. Kushage plants will stretch a bit but fill out nicely, with spicy, piney branches topped with lime-green colas surrounded by dark, waxy leaves.

Adam of T.H. Seeds describes his Kushage for me thusly: "The sandalwood flavor of our S.A.G.E. and the crystal-clear high add an extra boost to the almost addictive buzz of the OG Kush, making this a great plant for the Kush-crazy West Coast of the USA and the Haze lovers of Holland ... truly the best of both worlds!" And he's made it available in feminized form for the first time as well.

Lineage: S.A.G.E. x OG Kush

Flowering time: 9 to 10 weeks

Contact: T.H. Seeds, thseeds.com



OG Kush boasts an incredible level of potency.

OG KUSH

RESERVA PRIVADA

HIGH TIMES Top 10 Strain, 2005

This strain has gained an almost mythical status as the foundation of West Coast genetics. Hippie folklore marks the arrival of superior Afghan seeds from the Hindu Kush region into the hands of California's growers as the beginning of a marked transformation in the quality of homegrown marijuana. This sea change in domestic cannabis cultivation reveals itself even today in the predominance of Kush traits found among many of the world's most popular pot varieties. Kush offspring include a number of HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup winners and HT Strains of the Year, including the MK-Ultra and Sour Diesel. Plus, OG Kush offshoots such as the Bubba Kush and Purple Kush show wonderful promise as future prizewinners.

The DNA Genetics boys started Reserva Privada as a seed bank for some of their favorite strains being bred out by their buddies in Cali, and they now have feminized OG Kush seeds available for growers. The yields aren't huge, but these dense little nuggets pack a legendary punch.

Lineage: OG Kush clone

Indoor flowering time: 8 to 9 weeks

Contact: Reserva Privada, dnagenetics.com

Kaia KUSH

APOTHECARY GENETICS

1st Place HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup Sativa, 2007

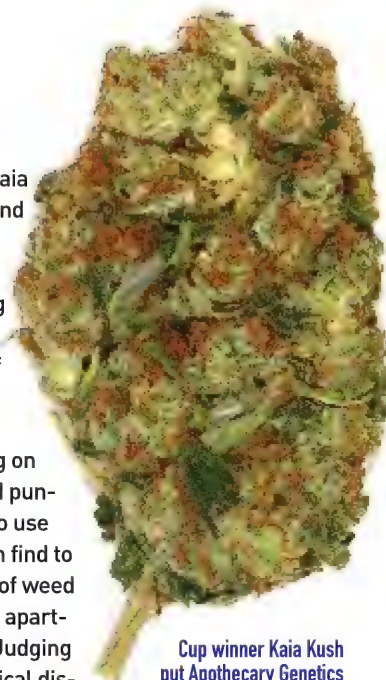
Apothecary breeder Bret, who created the Kaia Kush, named this strain after his daughter and promptly snagged an elusive HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup with it in 2007. Earthy and spicy—and very reminiscent of the Chemdog line of genes—this sativa-dominant hybrid has all the lemony-fuel taste and tartness of its predecessors, but with a relatively short flowering time for a strain of such note.

The Kaia Kush is a heavy yielder, packing on weight late into flowering. The abundant and pungent odor can be overpowering, so be sure to use charcoal filtration and whatever else you can find to control the rampant smells. This is the type of weed that can narc you out if you're not careful, so apartment growers especially should take heed. Judging from the reception for this one at many medical dispensaries in California, I'm expecting big things from Apothecary in the future.

Lineage: OG Kush x Super Silver Haze

Flowering time: 9 to 10 weeks

Contact: Apothecary Genetics, apothecarygenetics.com



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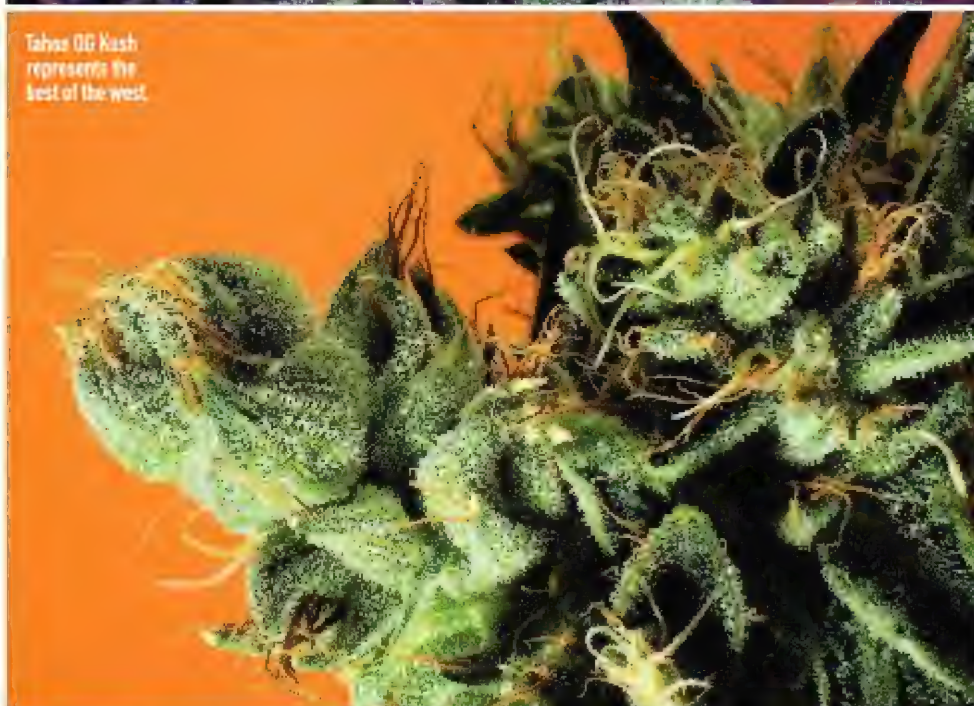
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PURPLE KUSH

CLONE ONLY

HIGH TIMES Top 10 Strain, 2006

California has gone "purple crazy," with hundreds of different varieties available in various shades from violet to deep blue. Combining the sweet flavor of the Purps with the lemony power of OG Kush, Purple Kush is a strain that exemplifies the best of both worlds. Strong bag appeal plus increased potency make the PK a perfect hybrid for growers interested in a product that sells itself.

Its short, squat stature and heavy harvests don't hurt either. This clone-only, almost pure *indica* strain has its origins in the Pacific Northwest, but has become increasingly popular and available elsewhere as the rest of the country (and the world) quickly catches up to the aesthetically and spiritually pleasing qualities of these grape-flavored, violet-colored nuggets. Medical patients in particular will appreciate the Purple Kush's deep body stone, which is helpful in treating chronic pain and depression.

Lineage: Hindu Kush x Purple Afghani

Flowering Time: 8 to 9 weeks

Contact: Clone only

TAHOE OG KUSH

THE CALI CONNECTION

From eastern Cali comes one of the strongest cannabis varieties of all time, the Tahoe OG Kush—often imitated but never perfected as it has been by breeder Swerve from the Cali Connection, a breeding outfit that has earned much respect for its Kush-heavy stable of strains in seed form. Swerve pollinated the original and legendary Tahoe clone with his San Fernando Valley OG F3 male, and the result adds fuel to the fire for sure.

The Tahoe OG grown from Swerve's seeds produces thick nuggets completely covered in glistening, glandular trichomes, but without the typical hermaphroditic tendencies of many closet-breeding pollen-chuckers' watered-down versions. Medical patients will appreciate the calming properties of the Tahoe OG Kush, which relieves insomnia as well as bodily pains and stress.

Lineage: San Fernando Valley OG Kush F3 x Tahoe Kush clone

Flowering time: 9 to 10 weeks

Contact: The Cali Connection, thecaliconnection.com

LARRY OG KUSH

THE CALI CONNECTION

The famed Larry OG cut made the rounds in Southern Cali for years and is an all-time favorite of Kush lovers everywhere. The archetypal "lemon-fuel/Pine-Sol funk" (as breeder Swerve perfectly describes it) is the tip-off that you're dealing with a real-deal OG cross.

Grown from seed, Larry does some pretty serious stretching after flowering is induced, but makes up for it with good yields of super-potent and odiferous pot. Typically producing almond- or teardrop-shaped calyxes with bright orange hairs, this strain grows super-frosty, with crystals out to the ends of the fan leaves (which turn dark purple as the plants near maturity). The thin, stretched-out branches may need to be staked for support, and mites love the Larry OG Kush as well—so stay vigilant and keep checking the undersides of leaves for damage to catch them early if they happen to attack.

Lineage: San Fernando Valley OG Kush (F3) x Larry Kush clone

Flowering time: 9 to 10 weeks

Contact: The Cali Connection, thecaliconnection.com ✨



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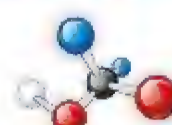
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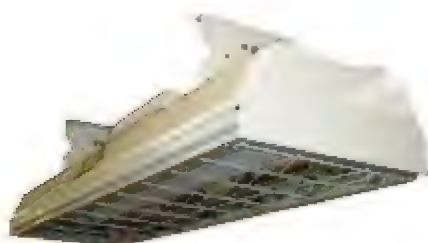
Most growers know the importance of proper light levels and are familiar with the basic facts that happy plants need the maximum lumens within the proper light spectrum to achieve the best grow. The right choice of lighting really plays a crucial role in our plants health & productivity.

We know that with the myriad of available choices in grow lights and the dizzying array of manufacturer's claims, it's really no surprise that seasoned growers who are using traditional lighting systems, with proven success, won't usually deviate from them unless they can be certain the ends justify the means.

Seasoned growers also realize that traditional (HID, T5, CFL) or evolving (LED), grow light systems come at a cost. Depending on the lamp being used these 'tradeoffs' for high lumens normally means high wattages, associated operating costs with ducting & cooling the environment from high temp lamps & ballasts, replacing lamps every cycle due to lumen depreciation, canopy penetration, changing fixtures depending on stage, & more.

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THE ART OF ROCK

BY BOBBY BLACK

Few things in life are as enriching to the human spirit as the exhilaration of experiencing live music, and there's no better way to advertise and commemorate an awesome tour or gig than with a limited-edition, signed-and-numbered concert poster. Utilizing a variety of techniques (sketch, paint, airbrush, clip art, photographs) and the inexpensive printing method known as silkscreen, this classic underground-art phenomenon combines form, flair and function to not only give you the 411 on an event, but make it look so killer that you can't wait to get your ticket.

The rock poster was born alongside rock 'n' roll itself, amidst the countercultural revolution of Haight-Ashbury in the mid- to late '60s. Artists like Victor Moscoso, Stanley Mouse, Wes Wilson and Alton Kelley began creating mind-blowing promotional posters for the emerging explosion of political and psychedelic bands performing at new hippie clubs like San Francisco's famous Fillmore Auditorium. Hence, that golden age of poster art is widely known as the "Fillmore Era."

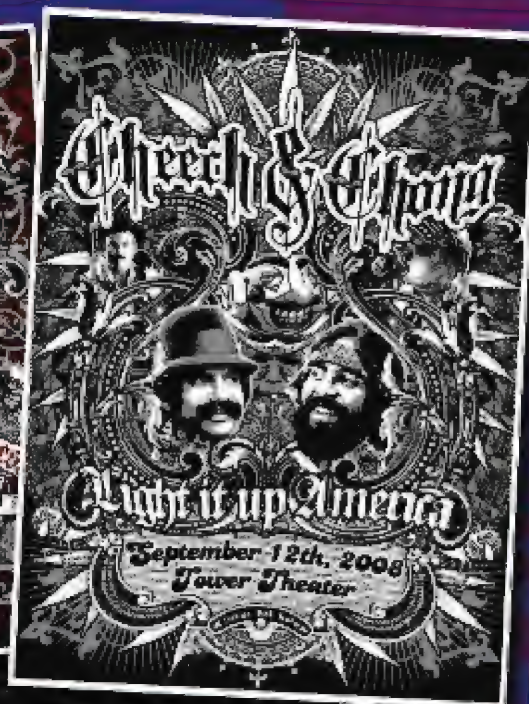
Around the same time down in Austin, TX, comic artists like Gilbert Shelton, Kerry Awn and Jim Franklin were doing similarly impressive work for clubs like the Armadillo World Headquarters (which actually took its name from Franklin's art). Later, during the mid-1980s, Austin became the epicenter of a poster-art renaissance when a new generation of artists redefined the genre and ushered in a silver age. Taking their cues from punk rather than hippie culture, guys like Nels "Jagmo" Jacobson and Frank Kozik (see page 34) replaced the psychedelic sensibility of the past with a grittier, edgier graphic style more in tune with the angst of the times.

In the '90s, prominent poster artists and enthusiasts around the globe began coming together as never before, developing a devoted community of websites and organizations. The Rock Poster Society is one such organization; founded in 1998, TRPS (affectionately known as "Trips") is an Oakland-based, nonprofit volunteer group of collectors, artists and dealers devoted to the preservation and celebration of the art. Then there's Gig-Posters.com—the world's largest online concert poster archive, where artists and visitors alike can browse, buy and comment on the artwork. It was in a forum on this site in 2002 that Kozik first posted his idea of putting together a convention where the world's top artists could meet, mingle and sell their wares to each other and their fans. That September, the first-ever Flatstock expo was held at Cellspace in San Francisco. It featured about 40 artists, and was so successful that Kozik decided to create a new nonprofit organization to back it up. Two months later, he and Jacobson founded the American Poster Institute.

"Frank asked me to be VP," says API vice-president Geoff Peveto, "and shortly after that, I approached SXSW to do the second Flatstock there." That was in March 2003, and it's been a staple attraction at the music festival ever since. "Now we have close to 400 members, and we host four Flatstocks and other, smaller events throughout the year ... everything from gallery shows to university exhibits to Bonnaroo." Of the four Flatstock festivals held each year—in Austin at SXSW (March), Chicago (July), Seattle (Labor Day weekend) and Hamburg, Germany (September)—Austin's is the largest, featuring anywhere from 80 to 100 artists.

Today, a new generation of poster artists is carrying the proverbial torch, adding their own techniques and tastes to the tradition. And since marijuana has always been a part of rock mythology, it's only natural that many posters employ weed- and other drug-related imagery. We've handpicked the stoniest art we could find from some of the hottest contemporary artists to showcase here. We hope they spark as many imaginations as they do joints.

To see and learn more, visit gigposters.com, americanposterinstitute.com and trps.org, or check out the documentary film *American Artifact* (2009).



JARED CONNOR

LOCATION: Austin, TX

INSPIRATION: The Gulf War, last calls, paying his dues in the live-music clubs of Austin

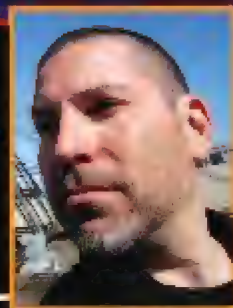
CLIENTS: Cheech & Chong, High On Fire, Honky, The Mars Volta, Turbonegro, Warner Brothers, Universal, Roadrunner Records, Teepee Records
mexicanchocolatedesign.com

GREGG GORDON

LOCATION: San Francisco, CA

INSPIRATION: For Cypress Hill's 420 show, I wanted a skeleton cruising, smoking a joint with a 420 license plate. I got the dragon idea from B-Real's tattoo.

CLIENTS: Alice in Chains, Hank III, The Mars Volta, Queens of the Stone Age, Sony Signatures
gigart.com





MIKE MARTIN

LOCATION: Columbus, OH

INSPIRATION: Pop culture, low-brow art, hotrod & custom car culture

CLIENTS: Snoop Dogg, Cypress Hill, Kottonmouth Kings, Slightly Stoopid, Red Hot Chili Peppers, 311, Reebok, Hot Topic, Timberland, Coors Brewing
enginehouse13.com

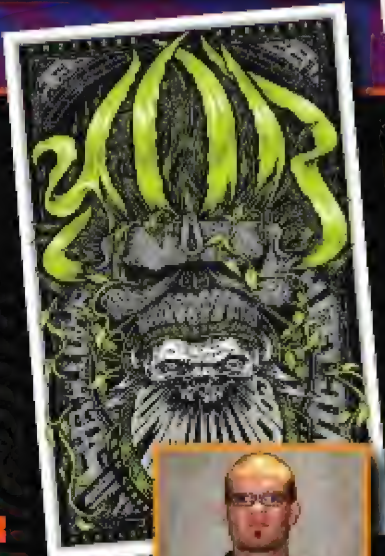
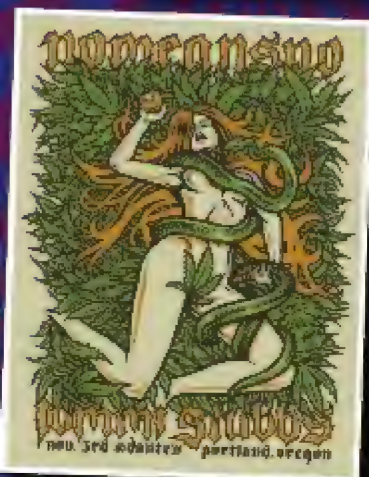
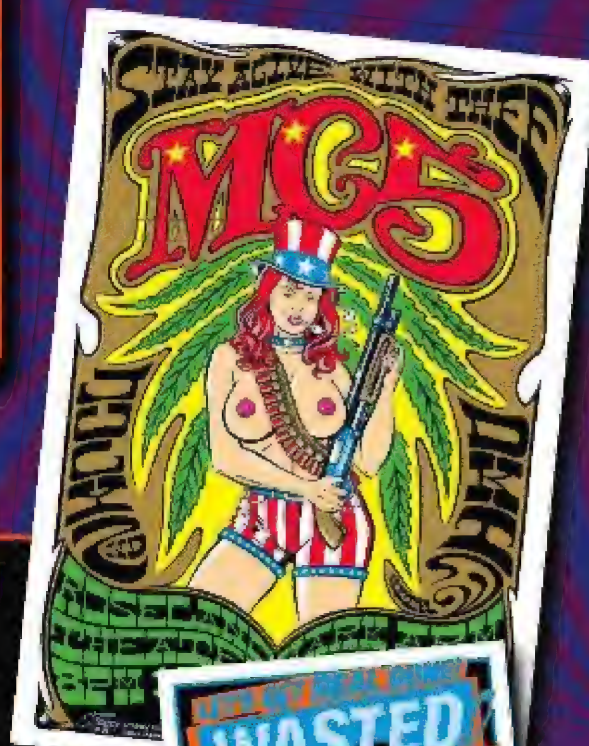


JOSH BERNSTEIN

LOCATION: New York, NY

INSPIRATION: MAD magazine, pro wrestling, B movies, heavy metal, weed, scotch on the rocks

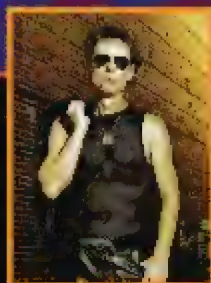
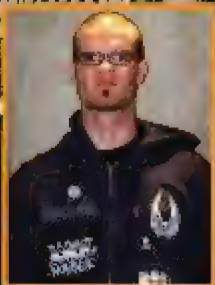
CLIENTS: Revolver Magazine, Royal Flush Magazine, Guitar World, Maxim, Blender, VH1, Warner Bros., MTV2, Marvel Comics
joshbernstein.carbonmade.com



MARK MCCORMICK

LOCATION: Brooklyn, NY

INSPIRATION: Frank Frazetta, Pushead, Alphonse Mucha, Jim Phillips, Rick Griffin
CLIENTS: Suicidal Tendencies, Yob, Mastodon, Slayer, Black Elk
markmccormickart.com



STAINBOY REINEL

LOCATION: Orlando, FL

INSPIRATION: Pop culture trash, busty femme fatales, muscle cars and classic cinema exploitation

CLIENTS: House of Blues, Live Nation, Fuse TV, Club International magazine, Signatures Network
stainboyreinel.com



THE ART OF POSTERS

DAVID D'ANDREA

LOCATION: Portland, OR
INSPIRATION: Victor Moscoso, Roger Dean, Stanley Mouse, cryptozoology, natural psychedelics, the mysteries of mind, space, and time
CLIENTS: Roadburn Festival 2011, Sleep, Om, Pentagram, Wino, Witchcraft, The Jesus Lizard
dvdandrea.com



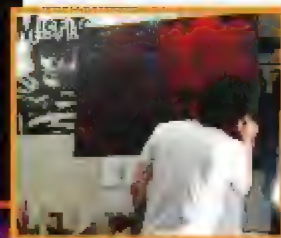
GARY HOUSTON

LOCATION: Portland, OR
INSPIRATION: Scratch board illustrations, ink, hand-cut films
CLIENTS: The Black Crowes, Gov't Mule, Shooter Jennings, Lee Scratch Perry, Bad Brains, George Clinton, BB King, Motorhead, Willie Nelson
voodoocatbox.com



TEDDY PANCAKE

LOCATION: San Diego, CA
INSPIRATION: The San Francisco poster greats of the '60s like Rick Griffin and Lee Conklin, David Singer, Rob Jones, Alan Forbes, Arik Roper and David D'Andrea
CLIENTS: Earthless, Mooney Suzuki, Acid Mothers Guru
teddypancake.com



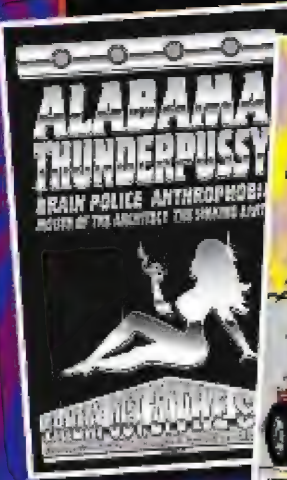
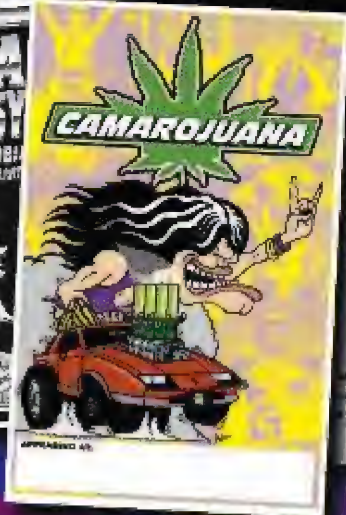
JIM ALTIERI

LOCATION: Reading, PA
INSPIRATION: Pop culture, news, trying to make people laugh, Mad magazine, Raymond Pettibon, Frank Kozik
CLIENTS: Jello Biafra, DRP Records, Electric Factory concerts, The Trocadero, Frank Phobia productions
gigposters.com/designer/537_Jim_Altieri



BRIAN MERCER

LOCATION: Philadelphia, PA
INSPIRATION: Drugs, booze, stoners, strippers, skateboarding, gangsters, metalheads, punks
CLIENTS: Witch, Clutch, Superjoint Ritual, Down, High On Fire, Weedeater, Pentagram, Lamb of God, Small Stone Records, Eyehategod
mercerrock.com



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Cut clones with a clean and sharp razor for continued success with rooting.

Many growers remain mystified by cloning and find it difficult to master the art of propagating many plants from one mother. Danny Danko explains the key factors that allow any marijuana farmer to root cuttings over and over with ease.

CLONING MADE EASY

By Danny Danko

Cloning from flowering plants can slow growth.



What Is Cloning, and Why Should I Bother?

Taking clones—the process of cutting off a growing branch from a mother plant and forcing roots to grow from the cut end, thereby multiplying one into many—isn't a technique invented by pot farmers. Since the beginning of agriculture, people have looked for alternate ways to propagate plants without using seeds. Every florist, farm-stand proprietor and garden-store owner knows the "secret" and profits mightily from the public's general lack of understanding of what's actually quite a simple process.

Replicating many copies of one plant provides real benefits over growing a garden from seeds. Because most seedlings will vary in size and growth rates, with different phenotypes behaving in various ways, seed gardens tend to be uneven, with light levels optimum for some plants but less so for others. Rooted clones, on the other hand, provide a level canopy, with every plant performing alike and benefiting from all the available light. Also, growing from seeds wastes valuable germination time, resulting in fewer total harvests per year.

From a quality-control perspective, a great mother plant can be the gift that keeps on giving. Known females with guaranteed elite genetics continue producing clone after clone of strong and tasty plants for many years. The only drawback to cloning is that all of the cuttings will share the same susceptibilities to fungus or disease, so always remain vigilant and start new moms if you have any problems. Purchasing rooted clones from a dispensary can sometimes cause more problems than it solves, so make sure the clones are pest- and fungus-free if you decide to go that route.

Cloning units use a fine mist of mild nutrient solution to induce roots from the cut ends of clones.

On Mother Plants

In order to benefit from the cloning process, you first must have access to a mother plant. The best way to get one is to grow her yourself, and the key is to never actually flower her out. For this, you need to germinate your pedigree seeds and grow them a few weeks in the vegetative stage, giving them at least 18 hours of light per day. Once they've produced several leaves and nodes, you take clones of the tops, root them, and flower them out with 12 hours of light per day to determine the sex and strength of the corresponding plant left behind in the vegging stage. Keep the strongest female or females in their vegetative stage and take all your subsequent clones from them. Now you have a mother plant.

Keeping the mother plant alive for multiple cloning sessions requires a bit of planning. Larger containers are necessary for the root systems. Also, mother plants shouldn't enter the flowering stage until they've given you all the cuttings you require. Keep mother plants under 18 to 20 hours of light at all times in order to prevent them from flowering (and having to revert them back to the vegetative stage once they do). Feedings should be mild and appropriate for vegging plants, meaning high nitrogen (N) levels with less phosphorous (P) and potassium (K). Diluted formulations of liquid seaweed, liquid fish and seabird guano are wonderful organic nutrients for mother plants.



This mother plant can provide up to 20 cuttings.

Never crowd cuttings together as they will need plenty of space to grow.

How to Clone

Choosing a medium to root your cuttings is the first step. Many different products exist, from rockwool to peat pellets to coco coir (see sidebar below). Hydroponic growers sometimes make their clones in thin air, using a mist to induce rooting at the cut end hanging down into a reservoir. As long as the medium stays moist, warm and airy, pretty much any one will do.

Because cannabis cuttings root best in warm conditions with high hu-

midity, the cheap trays with clear plastic domes work remarkably well. In cool conditions, a heat mat should be placed underneath the trays to maintain optimum temperature and humidity (75°F and 80% relative humidity is about right). No matter where and in what medium you plan to root your clones, keep warmth and high humidity on your priority list: Clones allowed to get cold or dry will perish quite quickly. But too much humidity can also cause mold and rot, so cut a hole or two in your clear

plastic dome to allow some air movement and circulation.

Choose a growing shoot with at least three sets of leaves and make the cut just below a node (the place where the leaves meet the stem). Make the cut with a sharp, non-serrated blade, and do so at about a 45° angle to ensure plenty of rooting area. Trim off the closest set of leaves to your cut so that you can get the stem into your medium.

Immediately immerse the cut end in a rooting hormone and then firmly (but gently) push the cut end into your pre-moistened rooting medium. Some people like to rough up the bottom inch or so of the stem (but gently) with the knife to create more roots, but it's not absolutely necessary. Within eight to 14 days, you should see white roots poking out of the bottom of your chosen medium. You are now ready to transplant the rooted clones into bigger containers for their vegetative stage of growth. Congrats! 🌱



CLONING IN COCO

by Mosca



Prepare your tools before you begin.

Hola and bienvenido to Mosca Seeds' Fly Cloning 101! You've taken the first step to simplify your life with an easy process of cloning your favorite plants using coco for the grow medium. I will begin by saying this method is like many others that use a substrate, but in our case we're using Super Growing Coco Pellets. These are approximately 1 inch round and have special absorbing crystals for water retention. The rooting tray, a self-watering system with a capillary mat, is a standard 10" x 20" nursery tray and can hold

approximately 1 gallon of water—which should be sufficient moisture for your clones for two to four days, depending on your heat settings. I've found that a small fan, a heat mat with a control unit, and a fluorescent light are all that is needed to get cloning.

Generally, it takes 10 to 14 days to see roots pop through the bottom. Your rooting solution can be powder, liquid, gel, etc.—it doesn't really matter. I have used many different formulas over the years, and they all work



Coco pellets will expand greatly once soaked.

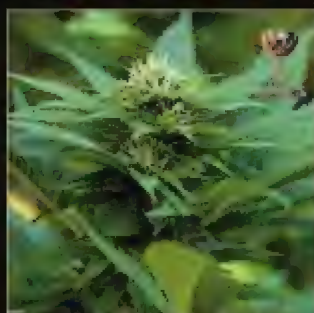


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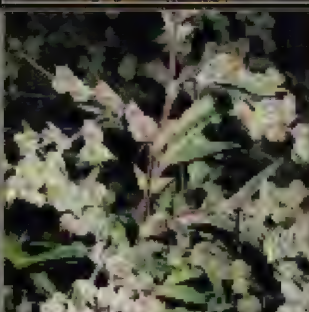
Pineapple Chunk

♀ 5 € 34 10 € 61



Flower Power (auto flowering)

♀ 10 € 29 | ♀ 5 € 39 10 € 70



Dr. Grinspoon

♀ 5 € 39 10 € 70



Utopia Haze

♀ 5 € 42 10 € 75



Amnesia Lemon

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G13 Haze

♀ 10 € 57 | ♀ 5 € 49 10 € 88



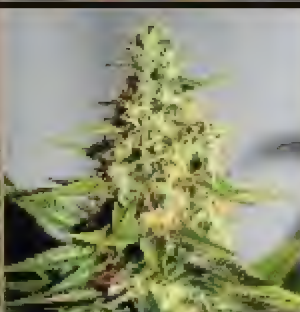
Sweet Tooth

♀ 10 € 46 | ♀ 5 € 42 10 € 75



Red Cherry Berry

♀ 5 € 28 10 € 50



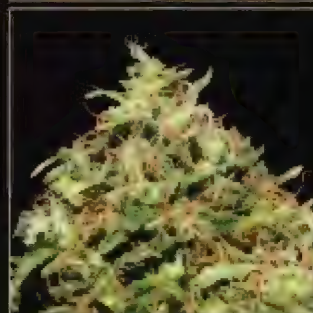
Acapulco Gold

♀ 5 € 34 10 € 61



Laughing Buddha

♀ 10 € 52 | ♀ 5 € 45 10 € 81



Red Diesel

♀ 5 € 39 10 € 70



Honey B

♀ 10 € 46 | ♀ 5 € 29 10 € 52



Phatt Fruity

♀ 5 € 27 10 € 48



8 Ball Kush

♀ 5 € 27 10 € 49



Red Dragon

♀ 5 € 42 10 € 75



Morning Glory

♀ 10 € 41 | ♀ 5 € 38 10 € 68



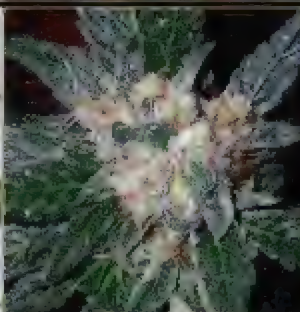
Night Shade

♀ 5 € 37 10 € 66



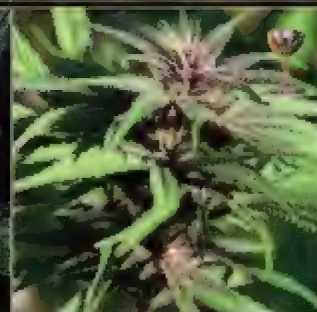
Top Dawg

♀ 5 € 24 10 € 43



Violator Kush

♀ 10 € 52 | ♀ 5 € 45 10 € 81



Crimea Blue

♀ 5 € 25 10 € 45

CLONING IN COCO



Make sure your mother plant has enough growth for the amount of cuttings you need.



Cut below the node and trim off the lowest shoots at the stem.



Dip the cut end in a rooting gel or powder.



Gently but firmly stick the cut end into your moistened coco mix.



Within 10 days or so, you should see roots protruding from the bottom.



This clone is ready to transplant into a larger container.

The only rooting additive we add to the water is House & Garden Roots Excelurator. Pre-mix the water solution with 5 milliliters of Roots Excelurator per gallon of H₂O. This is slightly more than recommended by the manufacturer, but it works superbly for us.

We don't use a humidity dome and generally don't spray the clones with anything—don't need to; the coco and reservoir system provide all the moisture the clones need. Temps in the cloning room are about 70°F to 74°F (or 21°C to 23°C). The heat mat is kept at 82°F (or 27.8°C). This creates a warm-water solution that aids in speeding up the rooting process.

We take standard nine-cell seedling trays and cut out a circle or square to help with moisture absorption for the coco medium. You can extend the life of your growing system for many rooting sessions by being sure to rinse off your capillary mat after every use.

You can expect to refill the water reservoir every two to four days—and sometimes more when the clones are sucking up moisture to fuel their growth. Of course, this will depend on the number of clones you've taken and put on each self-watering grow system. We don't recommend soaking the coco pellets in nutrient solution—the cuttings don't need it! With the thousands of cuttings we've taken on the Fly Ranch over the years, all of the cuttings have done fine without any nutrients. We do, however, recommend using the House & Garden Roots Excelurator in your water solution as a pre-soak—and that's it. Don't introduce nutrients (half-strength) until the clones are transplanted and have the necessary root system strong enough to absorb them properly.

Aren't you psyched about Fly Cloning now? It's as easy as 1-2-3. ✨



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A large indoor cannabis grow room with many plants hanging from the ceiling. The plants are densely packed and have long, thin stems and serrated leaves. The lighting is warm and focused on the plants. The background is dark, and the floor is covered with a brown, textured mat.

KUSHMAN'S

INNER VEGANIC

Our longtime cultivation reporter extraordinaire returns from NorCal with a growing method that goes far beyond organics for the best-tasting and cleanest-burning cannabis possible.

By Kyle Kushman & Penned by Ava Rize
Photos by Freebie

A large indoor cannabis grow with many plants hanging from a wooden frame. A person is visible in the background, working on the plants. The plants have green leaves and yellowish buds. The grow is lit with warm, yellow light.

Fresh branches of veganic buds hang drying for days prior to their final trim.

WHAT IS 'VEGANICS'?

Veganics represents the newest, most important method for indoor horticulturists to master, enabling growers to produce greener, healthier plants and potentially leading to bigger harvests. Healthier plants produce more flavor and potency while also shortening growing cycles. It really simplifies the amount of ingredients you use and the amount of metering you do. It's a living system, relying on a living root-soil food web.

We're going beyond organic medicinal marijuana here. Surpassing organic certifications, there are additional strict qualifications for Veganics. There's no set of government regulations, rules or laws: It simply uses no animal products. There are no mineral salts or left-over residues from the organics. Not only is it cleaner and safer, it's actually easier than organic farming. On top of that, there's nothing that can hurt humans or animals. Veganics is 100% nontoxic!

GETTING STARTED

For all indoor container farming, it's important that everything you put in gets used, without residues and buildup. Plant-based nutrients are the only sure way to accomplish this. I've always used plant extracts such as seaweed, but now I'm using plant extracts to derive *all* plant nutrition. Some of these extracts, like Canna's ultra-expensive Bio-Boost, don't have nutritive value; instead, they affect the plant's metabolism on a cellular level. By feeding veganic nutrients, you're supercharging the plant to grow extraordinarily similarly to nature's intentions.

When growing indoors using Veganics, leaves stay green all the way to the end because the soil is pure and clean. After the plant metabolizes veganic plant-based nutrition, the only residuals in the soil are complex carbohydrates. By providing complex carbs to the plant, you're allowing the plant to skip over that step in the line of production and concentrate on other processes, such as manufacturing plant cells and structure. Additionally, these carbohydrates feed beneficial bacteria and fungi.

Large, healthy colonies of beneficial bacteria and fungi are essential to Veganics and to the living root-soil food web. We add them in solid, granular and brewed form to fortify and immunize the growing medium and plants. The colonies take unusable, locked out or locked up components and substantially improve bioavailability, leaving you with a pest-free, toxin-free and contaminant-free media. Constantly reintroducing beneficial microbes gives plants unsurpassed pathogen suppression.

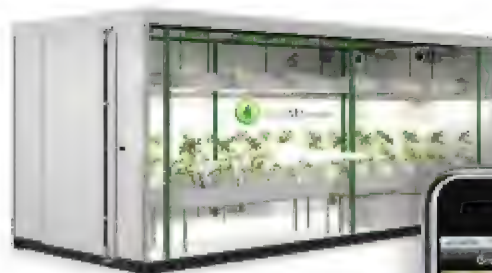
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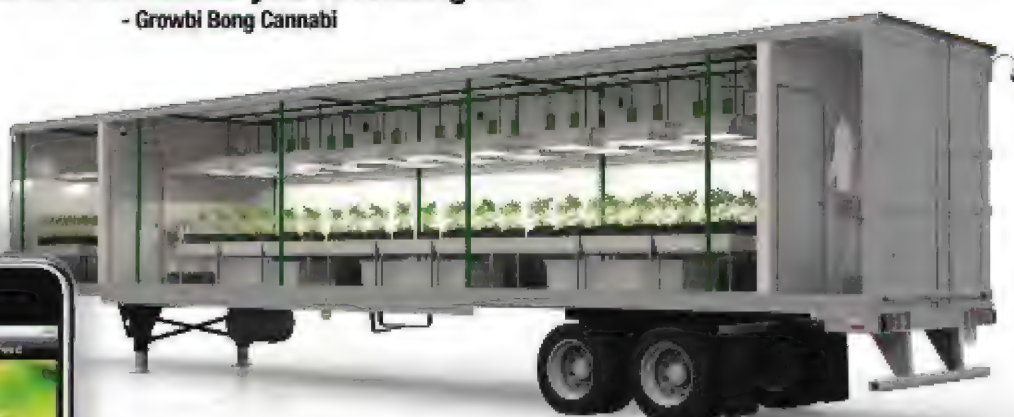
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BIO-FILM

In addition to treating soil with beneficial microbes, a bio-film is essential, since it becomes the plant's second immune system. Applying a bio-film is simple: just spray a brewed microbe tea and coat the plant's entire surface. You've created a bio-film shield of beneficial microbes on the exterior of the plant, thus producing a pathogen-suppression system above the soil. It doesn't work well with insects such as spider mites; microbes aren't fierce enough to attack a pest, but they will recognize other threats, such as a mold spore. Before the spore can mutate and grow, the microbes on the plant's exterior will kill it. The mold never gets the chance to multiply and compete with the plant for space to grow.

Enzymes work much like microbes, except they're not alive. Microbial activity is long lasting, whereas enzymatic activity is short-lived. For this reason, I suggest using two products to supercharge enzymatic action. With enzymes, only so many species can co-exist in a bottle, so two products provide a wider array of enzymes. They all perform similar functions, but have different specialties. I suggest Hygrozyme for its extremely long shelf life; the second should be one of the darker formulations like Cannazyme, Prozyme or Sensizyme.

Apply enzymes at every watering throughout the entire life cycle of the plant. Plan to apply the highest enzymatic levels to match peak nutrient usage. Adding enzymes all the way to the end will make sure that everything is available for use by the plant. When you discontinue feeding and initiate flushing, enzymes make sure residual molecules of food get into the plants. Also, enzymes make sure roots stay fresh and clean so the plant can continue to respire without necrosis, even though it's nearing the end of its life cycle. After harvest, you'll still have healthy white roots rather than brown mush at the bottom of your container. Continually adding soluble and granular beneficial microbes and fungi to the soil, along with a bio-film to the exposed plant, creates a high-volume living colony with a supercharged immune system.

NUTRIENT AVAILABILITY

How available are the nutrients in your soil? Veganics blows away every other cultivation practice when we look at how conducive the soil is to microbial and fungal growth. The proper term for nutrient availability is *bioavailability* in both organics and Veganics. On a molecular level, bioavailability refers to the extent that chemicals within the nutrients are available to plants.

When growing with veganic nutrients in a veganic-based soil, large colonies of beneficial microbes ensure that every centimeter of root is in contact with the living root-soil food web. This stimulates root hairs, which become laterals (roots), creating a prolific root system. Nutrients are never locked up, locked out or unavailable; every molecule is utilized and metabolized by the plant. Consumers have been led to believe that chemicals are dependable and work better, but that's a false sales premise. The closer you can get to nature, the closer you get to optimal conditions and the best product possible.

CHERRY LOPEZ







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Kyle Kushman harvests a whole plant that demonstrates strong branching achieved by supercropping.



GUANO-NO?

Once you introduce animal products to a closed system, you're inevitably going to have problems when decomposition leads to residue and possibly harmful microbes in your rhizosphere (root zone). Veganics uses only plant-based nutrients that leave no residue behind, unlike guano.

Outdoors, where plant roots aren't constrained by the walls of a bucket, organics can be used without residue accumulation. When growing indoors, however, you don't want manures or guanos where people or pets can track harmful organisms and bacteria around the rest of the house. There are many concerns, salmonella and E. coli being the two most dangerous possibilities. Pesticide residues left over from what animals are fed, other residuals, heavy metals and numerous contaminants are other traditional concerns for organic indoor cannabis cultivators.

PROPER PLANT PRODUCTS

I spend time scouring the market for worthwhile new products. There is no actual "Veganics" certification, but I'm primarily using products that advertise they're veganic. I currently supplement with about 2% animal-derived phosphorous, but it's been highly refined to the point of being clear and odorless; all of the animal contaminants have had the microbial life removed, and it's extremely clean.

Using veganic products keeps the rhizosphere sweet and free of anything the plants don't need. Adding anything else will have a negative effect on the rate of photosynthesis, and plant metabolism will be slowed. Guanos are not fully decomposed, so they're not 100% bioavailable to the plants, which lowers growth and production-efficiency rates.

Additionally, Veganics isn't dependent on what animals might have eaten. When nutrition is derived from plants, the plants have been growing in a similar manner for millennia and have evolved to use the least amount of energy needed to maximize metabolic rates and photosynthesis.

A NEW WAY TO GROW

Veganics solves the problem of the residues left behind by the use of mineral-salt-derived nutrients, guanos and manure. Until now, there have been only two ways to feed your plants: chemically or organically. Chemically means you're using mined mineral salts to get potassium and phosphorus—and, generally, nitrogen in the form of urea. In container farming, where the roots are limited, there are several detriments to using both mineral salts and guanos.

For one thing, chemical fertilizers have harmful contaminants and leave residues. After mineral salts provide their nutrients, there's salt left behind. High sodium content can literally stop growth, but before that, it slows growth down. Salt is not a nutrient to plants—it's a leftover after the nutrients have been metabolized. Salt is poison to any plant at elevated levels, especially when it's limited to a container. The plant still might live and grow, but it's not going to be functioning as well. That's why you hear a lot about flushing. Veganic nutrition, on the other hand, is residue-free and uses enzymes to convert dead roots into useful nutrients instead of leaving them to rot in the bucket.

WHY VEGANIC?

Sometimes, chemicals do make it easier to ensure crop consistency—and, I'll admit, you don't have to pay attention to your crop as much. But you are what you eat, and you are what you smoke. If the cells of the plant have been constructed with chemical fertilizers, then that's what you're smoking—chemicals. I've used a lot of chemical fertilizers in the past, trying every new product as it came out on the market. The reason people buy them is because they work really well. However, my experience has taught me that plant growth can easily be stifled, muted or made impure with chemicals.

Chemical fertilizers are already refined and available to your plants. That's why they're so quickly assimilated: You put them in and—*boom!*—there they are. But the plants are ingesting contaminants in the fertilizers and then have to compete with fertilizer residues left behind in the soil. Chemical fertilizers, no matter how well they're manufactured, will have fillers and harmful residues that leave residuals even after flushing!

Microbes and compost will eventually break chemicals down to their core elements so they can become nutrients. But in a closed indoor system, there's no time for the chemicals to break down within the plant's life cycle. It creates a buildup that really can't be flushed out. Growth is stifled and the rate of photosynthesis slows. This makes chemically fertilizing your crop a really poor way to grow medicine.



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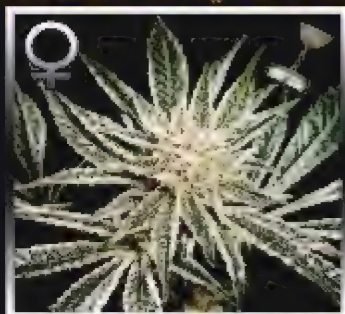


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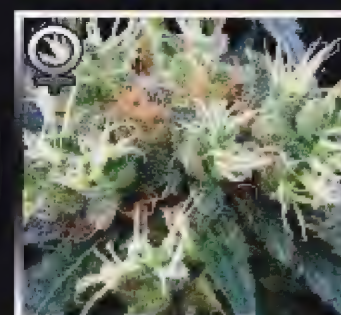
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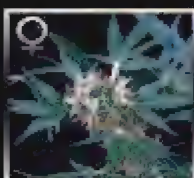
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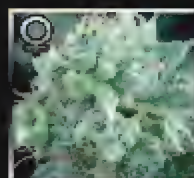
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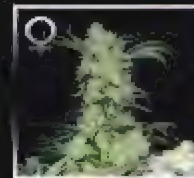
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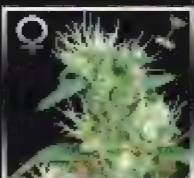
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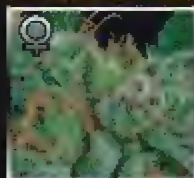
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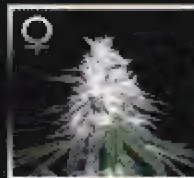
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WIDE pH RANGE

It takes a lot of mental energy, monitoring and adjustments to perfect pH levels, which have always been a major part of horticulture. You know if your pH levels are perfect, you can get the most out of your plants and the nutrients you put in your soil. Veganic nutrients, because they are very complicated chains of molecules, are widely available over a large pH range, making adjustment of the pH unnecessary.

Optimal pH is where plant metabolism can be brought up to as high a rate as possible. In the absence of mineral-salt-derived nutrients, pH levels are less likely to fluctuate. Cannabis cultivation in soil or soilless mediums requires pH levels to be kept between 6.0 and 6.5 for optimal conditions, although acceptable pH levels range from 5.5 to 7.0. Veganics turns your acceptable pH range into your optimal pH range, broadening the range by 150%. It's the bioavailability over the entire acceptable pH range (5.5 to 7.0) that keeps all the nutrients available to plants.

Natural, plant-derived nutrition is 100% bioavailable over the entire acceptable pH range. There's no buildup, and you don't have to add more nutrients to the soil than you need. Everything you add gets metabolized by the plant, virtually eliminating the need to adjust pH levels in order to achieve optimal growth.

LIVING WATER

My indoor methods also include supercharging water. Water has a life force—it can be dead or alive. Dead water is still useful to plants, but not optimally. Here are several ways to supercharge your water.

Drawing your water well ahead of time allows the temperature to come closer to an ambient range. This allows plants to maintain optimal photosynthesis rates after watering without shock. Municipal water also contains chlorine, a bactericide—it will impact *all* bacterial life, so it makes no distinction between good and bad. Drawing water a minimum of 24 to 48 hours before use allows time to eliminate the chlorine.

While allowing the water to come to room temp, you should also aerate the reservoir with a basic fish-tank air pump and aeration stone. Aerating agitates the water, helping chlorine to fully dissipate. In addition, the only time you supply major amounts of oxygen to the roots is when watering. As water penetrates the medium, it creates suction. This draws oxygen down into the root zone in a process called percolation. Aerating the water can't be stressed enough—it's a huge step and shouldn't be undervalued.

Filters are also an essential step in water preparation. There's no need for reverse osmosis; a simple two-stage water filter will do. We don't want to use reverse osmosis in soil or soilless mixes because it removes all mineral content in the water. Reverse osmosis is better suited to hydroponic applications. Unless you have super-hard water, it's actually beneficial to leave the low, naturally occurring mineral content in the tap water.



Plants fed naturally show vigorous healthy growth.

PLANT VIGOR

Ultimate plant vigor is displayed by bright colors and fleshy green stems and stalks, rather than purpling or striations of any kind. The plants strive to be green from top to bottom. Leaves raised high to the sky are signs of plants being happy, healthy and strong. Veganic gardens routinely have leaves raised 70 degrees or more. Also, the actual size of the leaves, stems and branches is larger. By increasing the metabolic rate of plants, the rate of photosynthesis increases in timely correlation. With increased photosynthesis, cells are dividing more rapidly.

The plants transition through every stage of growth faster and easier due to fewer impurities being added throughout the life cycle. There are early, middle and late phases in each part of the growth cycle, during which the plant is trying to ramp up (or tamp down) certain hormones. These hormones tell the plant whether it's going to grow leaves or branches, or if it's about to grow flowers. Later on, these hormones will also tell the plant that it's time to make cannabinoids and produce psychoactive compounds.

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BREW TEA!

Another crucial aspect of Veganics is building a supercharged root-soil food web. Feeding the root-soil food web is an intensive agricultural practice and requires constant attention. To supercharge the web, you have to keep up with adding microbes to the soil and making teas. Brewed teas need to be used within a two- to three-day window; otherwise, they should be discarded.

Plants grow more root structure in the vegetative stage than in the flowering stage, so you really have to start using compost tea early on to take full advantage of the plant's natural potential. In addition to encouraging plants with brewed teas and microbes, you also have to go from complete wet to dry cycles. You want to saturate the medium until you get a little runoff and then not water again until the plant is virtually about to wilt (and feeling lightweight when you pick it up). This forces the plants to search out the remaining water while laying down a more prolific root structure. This greatly augments the plant's ability to utilize energy, helping to create a supercharged root-soil food web. This web produces plants that naturally grow with a higher rate of photosynthesis and a quicker metabolism.

With organics, you can buy raw materials and turn them into teas and liquid nutrients. Veganics requires large volumes of plant matter to be extracted, carefully fermented and concentrated to gain nutritive value in sufficient quantities. Because of this, Veganics doesn't afford the opportunity to make your own nutrients. Right now, there are only a few completely plant-based products on the market. Some veganically labeled products use an array of chemicals, which can be OMRI-listed.



Sticky pest traps reveal signs of insects before a full infestation.

CANNA, BUSS

The basis of indoor veganic nutrition was solidified by the release of the Canna company's BioCanna line of nutrients and soil. It's organic, veganic and minimally processed, and it's the mainstay of Kushman's Indoor Veganics. Still, BioCanna is only one aspect of this system.

Vital to augmenting high-yield situations is the Nature's Nectar product line. Veganic nitrogen is hydrolyzed plant protein, but the phosphorus is derived from bat guano. Though we've talked about the dangers of guano, this product is ultra-refined and pure. It's not your average guano microbe tea; it's a dead liquid that's clear and odorless and has been refined to the point where no bacteria can survive.

Technaflora Plant Products makes two amazing products I've used for 15 years. Thrive Alive is a liquid fortified with B vitamins. Soluble Seaweed is a versatile powder with the highest level of freely available potassium you can purchase. Harvested in British Columbia's pristine, super-cold waters, it's loaded with tons of trace elements and natural auxins and cytokinins. Both are derived from *ascophyllum nodosum*. Together with Nature's Nectar Phosphorous, they'll give you a bountiful bloom boost for mid-flowering.

A micronutrient supplement is also important. Mineral Matrix is one that I really like. It's a veganic, OMRI-listed concoction of all the micro and trace elements you need: sulfur, iron, manganese, molybdenum, zinc, etc. An alternative is Earth Crew's Micro-Boost. General Organics makes a veganic cal-mag supplement, essential in sterilized or pasteurized soils.

A root tonic is also advisable and should be given with every watering from first planting until you stop feeding. These tonics help your roots' ability to continue expanding. They usually come in a silver-bullet-type package because they're very active. (In other words, they'll explode plastic containers.) They're usually also *ascophyllum-nodosum*-based. That's because of the high levels of auxins and cytokinins, which are growth hormones.

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SOIL CHOICES

The ideal medium for veganic growing is Canna's BioTerra Plus, composed of three types of both sphagnum and bark. The six are then milled to three different consistencies each before being mixed together. Most importantly, there is no perlite, which limits the bioavailability of veganic nutrients and eliminates useful space for the root-soil food web.

After more than a year of sold-out distribution, BioTerra Plus is presently unavailable: The USDA prohibited it from entering the country because of sterility problems with a European fir bark used. Canna is currently working out a solution—but until it can pass USDA inspection, it's back to single-peat-based, perlite-enhanced mixes. Premier, Botanicare's Ready-Gro, or my current choice, Humboldt Mix from Humboldt Nutrients, are all viable alternatives. These mixes will require pH adjustment of the nutrient solution to 6.5 after initiating flowering.

CLEAN GREEN

It's imperative for health-minded "cannasseurs" to grow a superior, cleaner plant with as little residue as possible. It's time to elevate the production of medicinal cannabis to a level comparable with nature's intentions. Everyone can grow healthy "headies" with Veganic Earth-Friendly Cannaculture™. 🌱

Go to kushmanveganics.com for more information on Veganics and the release of Kyle's upcoming book and video.



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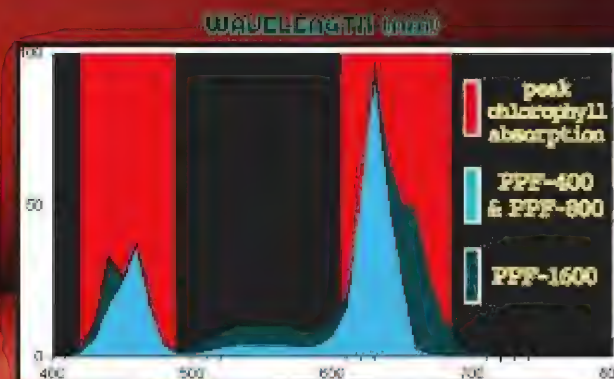
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Founder of NORML and a veteran cannabis activist for over 40 years.

Reaching the milestone of 420 issues probably seemed impossible—or at least highly unlikely—when Tom Forçade founded HIGH TIMES in 1974. To publish a successful national magazine celebrating marijuana for 36 years in the middle of a Drug War is nothing short of miraculous.

NORML forged a lasting alliance with Forçade and HIGH TIMES from the very beginning. In fact, NORML and HIGH TIMES are the only two institutions of any consequence in this country that champion the responsible use of marijuana. When we were in the process of putting NORML together, I was advised by some (including former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark) that we would have no credibility with elected officials, the public or the national media unless we assumed an official policy of discouraging marijuana use—even as we lobbied for legalization. We were warned that it was fine to call for an end to the practice of treating marijuana smokers as criminals, but that our arguments in support of this should never be seen as pro-marijuana advocacy. Instead, we were advised to focus on arguments like conserving law-enforcement resources, using scarce jail and prison space for serious offenders, and finding a more compassionate way to discourage the use of marijuana—one that would not destroy a person's life or career for smoking a marijuana cigarette.

The advice we received from Clark and others may have been the best positioning for NORML at the time—had we been totally honest from the outset, we would have been treated as a fringe group, not to be taken seriously. So, instead, we were officially anti-jail and anti-discrimination, not pro-pot. We supported the more effective and efficient use of our law-enforcement and prosecutorial resources. The downside was that we were being less than honest. As a result, we ignored our most convincing and powerful argument: that pot is essentially harmless, and that there is nothing wrong with smoking it.

I can say with some pride that, within a few years, NORML adopted a far more honest posi-



tion, defining the organization as a marijuana smokers' lobby—a consumer lobby. We urged smokers to come out of the closet; otherwise, we would remain essentially invisible to our elected officials, as well as our friends, neighbors and co-workers.

By early 1977, in a *Playboy* magazine interview, I talked openly about my personal use and made it clear that NORML was indeed a pro-pot lobby. We had achieved a certain level of acceptance by then, having decriminalized marijuana smoking in 11 states. I decided there was more to be gained by being honest than by remaining politically "correct." It is a decision that I have never regretted.

By the mid-'90s, the NORML board of directors drafted and publicly issued a document entitled "Principles of Responsible Cannabis Use," defining for the first time what conduct we felt was acceptable, and what was not.

When one considers the incredibly harsh and misleading propaganda promoted by our government—that marijuana leads to harder drugs, and that marijuana smokers are not only lazy and shiftless, but an actual danger to society, much of which was swallowed hook, line and sinker by older Americans—it took real courage for HIGH TIMES to remain an honest pro-marijuana advocate.

HIGH TIMES was never concerned with being politically correct. Its readers were already marijuana smokers, and the primary purpose of the magazine was to celebrate the smoking culture. It remained consistently pro-pot, even during the harrowing political swing to the right of the '80s and early '90s, when a renewed crackdown on marijuana was mounted by the nation's Drug Warriors. The government even attempted to shut the magazine down by bringing criminal charges against its advertisers—those who sold paraphernalia and indoor growing equipment. Many magazine distributors stopped carrying HIGH TIMES for fear that they too might be harassed or arrested. It is a testament to the management and staff of HIGH TIMES that they managed to adjust to lower circulation and vastly lower advertising for several years and somehow stayed in business.

By the mid-'90s, the worst of the anti-marijuana backlash had passed. Once again, the

magazine competed for advertisers and readers. In the past year, HT has debuted HIGH TIMES MEDICAL MARIJUANA NEWS AND REVIEWS, a West Coast-based publication focused entirely on the medicinal use of cannabis. HT's persistence, its reliance on the protection of the First Amendment, and its unwillingness to compromise its message to suit the authorities has borne fruit. Today, smokers look to places like HIGH TIMES and NORML—not the government—for reliable information on cannabis, including its medicinal use.

NORML and HIGH TIMES have consistently advanced the right of individuals to grow their own marijuana, regardless of what version of decriminalization or legalization a state may adopt. In this emerging industry, we place a high priority on the importance of personal cultivation in order to keep the government honest should it try to sell poor-quality marijuana, overcharge, or make it otherwise difficult or inconvenient for consumers to obtain pot. Keeping the option open for consumers to buy high-quality seeds or starter plants to cultivate their own marijuana keeps the market responsive to our needs. Otherwise, the consumer has little leverage against those who are primarily interested in getting rich.

In California, many successful growers and distributors have enriched themselves on the backs of patients, charging outrageous prices—as much as \$600 to \$800 an ounce. These prices are simply not justifiable. Underground growers and sellers of marijuana have helped to drive the price of marijuana to its current levels because of the so-called "prohibition tax"—that is, those who risk their freedom and fortunes to provide us with marijuana cite the dangers of their profession to justify charging exorbitant prices.

But those conditions no longer apply in California, Colorado and a handful of other states. If growers and sellers adhere to state regulations, they need not fear or hide. Yet they continue to charge prohibition-style prices, even as studies show the actual cost of growing marijuana is approximately \$25 dollars per ounce. That level of mark-up—especially for seriously ill patients—is unconscionable and must be confronted.

In California, some growers and sellers oppose the efforts to fully legalize, regulate and tax marijuana, fearing that legalization will result in lower prices and profits, as well as motivate large corporate growers and distributors to enter the marketplace. But these concerns pale in comparison to the damage done by the arrest

of so many otherwise law-abiding citizens.

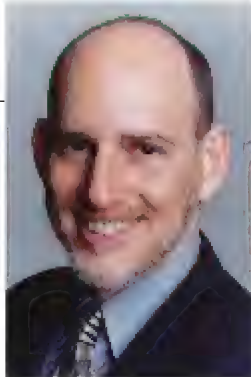
At NORML, we have always predicted a likely split between the industry and consumers. However, this is a sign of the political progress that we have made over the years. This industry, which for decades was thought to be an evil force bent on corrupting our children, can now participate in policy debates. We need to evaluate our industry just like any other, recognizing that its primary objective is making money, not achieving social justice.

NORML has intentionally set its course in order to represent the interests of marijuana smokers. It has been a pleasure to stand side by side with HIGH TIMES as the standard-bearer for responsible marijuana smokers. We look forward, in the near future, to seeing our work completed—on the day when marijuana is legal and available to all adults who wish to use it.

ETHAN A. NADELMANN

Founder and executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance.

Proposition 215, the California medical-marijuana ballot initiative that triumphed in 1996, was a breakthrough both for me and the drug-policy reform movement. My role was to raise the roughly \$2 million required to get the initiative on the ballot and



run the campaign—and to ensure that the campaign would be victorious. Neither I nor anyone else had ever done anything like this before. It proved a dynamic learning experience.

Dennis Peron and other local activists had created the opportunity by drafting the initiative. I then persuaded George Soros, Peter Lewis and George Zimmer to partner in providing the major funding. Next, I recruited Bill Zimmerman, a professional campaign manager with a personal passion for the issue, to run the campaign. Absent any one of them, Prop. 215 would never have made the ballot or won.

Our victory demonstrated for the first time that the nascent drug-policy reform movement could win one in the big leagues of American politics—and it effectively launched the second wave of marijuana-reform activism in the United States.

The next challenge was legalizing medical marijuana outside California. We polled in over a dozen states and identified six where we thought a medical-marijuana initiative was winnable: Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, Nevada and Maine. Soros and Lewis agreed to partner again, this time in tandem with John Sperling, who wanted their support for his efforts in Arizona and elsewhere to roll back the Drug War by substituting drug treatment for incarceration.

With each one contributing over \$2.5 million dollars and Bill Zimmerman managing the national effort, we won all six medical-mari-

juana initiatives between 1998 and 2000—and also defeated two hostile legislative efforts: one in Oregon, where the state legislature voted to reverse the 1973 marijuana-decriminalization law; and the other in Arizona, where legislators tried to undermine Prop. 200, the initiative mandating treatment instead of incarceration that we'd won in 1996.

I'll always feel proud of the role I played in those victories—and in subsequent victories for marijuana and other drug-law reform efforts, both at the ballot box and in state legislatures and Congress. And I am always conscious of the fact that what made these victories possible was the pioneering advocacy efforts of others: Bob Randall, Keith Stroup, Lester Grinspoon, Michael Aldrich, Kevin Zeese, Arnold Trebach, Rufus King, Alfred Lindesmith and so many more—including the founder, publishers and editors of HIGH TIMES, who started fighting the good fight long before I did.

I guess what distinguishes me from some other leaders in the marijuana-law reform effort is my commitment to ending not just marijuana prohibition, but also the broader War on Drugs. It's not that I believe all drugs should be treated the same. Rather, our cause is stronger, better and more just when marijuana-reform activists embrace the broader drug-policy reform movement—and when those who pursue drug-law reform because of a commitment to racial justice, public health or human rights accept the centrality of marijuana-law reform to the greater struggle.

To HIGH TIMES: *Mazel tov* on your 420th issue!

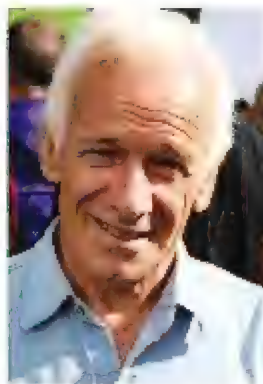
DENNIS PERON

Activist, entrepreneur and medical-marijuana visionary, as well as a crucial figure in the passage of California's Prop. 215.

What a long, strange trip it's been! From the very first issue of HIGH TIMES (concealed in a brown paper wrap), I witnessed the beginning of a magazine dedicated to my first love—marijuana—and the chronicling of our movement to free the weed and change the laws. I had always thought it would be legal by now. I hadn't counted on Tricky Dicky Nixon's last stand: the scheduling of marijuana under the Controlled Substances Act. I underestimated how much reefer madness was to come—and come it did, in wave after wave of hysterical, screaming madness.

HIGH TIMES started out just about the time I first began selling marijuana. Actually, I started back in 1970. Returning from Vietnam and entering school, I supplemented my GI Bill by selling a couple ounces a week. (They were called "lids" then.)

I never dreamed it would turn into a career;



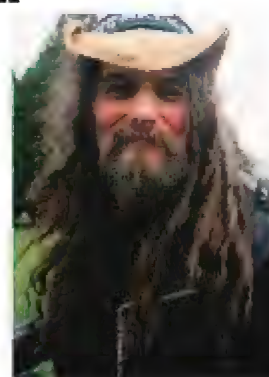
I was planning to be a psychiatrist. Instead, I was sidetracked by our battles—battles where I would lose lovers, friends and, sadly, the country I love.

And it nearly cost me my life. I've been shot and jailed over a dozen times. That's what made the Prop. 215 victory in 1996 so sweet. We kicked their collective ass, and the world will never be the same.

VIVIAN MCPEAK

Executive director of the Seattle Hempfest and founder of the Seattle Peace Heathens Community Action Group.

When Tom Forçade rolled out the first issue of HIGH TIMES in 1974, I was a 16-year-old living in Lake

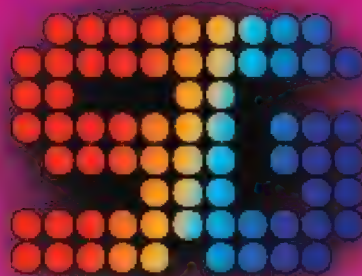


Tahoe, CA. I was no different than most teenagers in the '70s: I was already a budding cannabis enthusiast, having taken my first toke of the herbaceous substance at a Grand Funk Railroad concert a few years before.

Naturally, I was very influenced by HIGH TIMES, and as I grew and my beliefs evolved, HIGH TIMES grew too. Originally featuring an array of illicit substances, in later years HIGH TIMES narrowed its focus to more natural substances such as cannabis, peyote and mushrooms. The addition of Steve Hager in the 1980s introduced a much more balanced and even reverent approach to cannabis journalism, one that focused more on activism and reform.

I believe this move has had a very positive impact on the world's cannabis community. In the years that followed, much tribal wisdom and cultural knowledge has been shared in the pages of HIGH TIMES. Whether it's revealing the true origins of 420 or sharing the latest, safest, nontoxic methods of cultivation, HIGH TIMES has informed, entertained and enlightened its readers for hundreds of issues over four decades. And upon the occasion of its 420th issue, America appears poised for a gigantic shift in policy. I hope that HIGH TIMES will continue to promote harm reduction and responsible use with its campy mix of stoner humor, investigative journalism and glossy pot-plant photos. I would not be the same person I am today had I not been a lifelong reader and fan of the world's first drug-culture magazine.

I can think of at least 420 reasons for any psychoactive saddle tramp to read and support this greatly influential and trailblazing publication. As we forge ahead in our quest to liberate the world's most amazing plant, I have no doubt that HIGH TIMES will play its part in energizing our vibrant, active cannabis culture worldwide. I hope the next 420 issues are just as great! 🌿



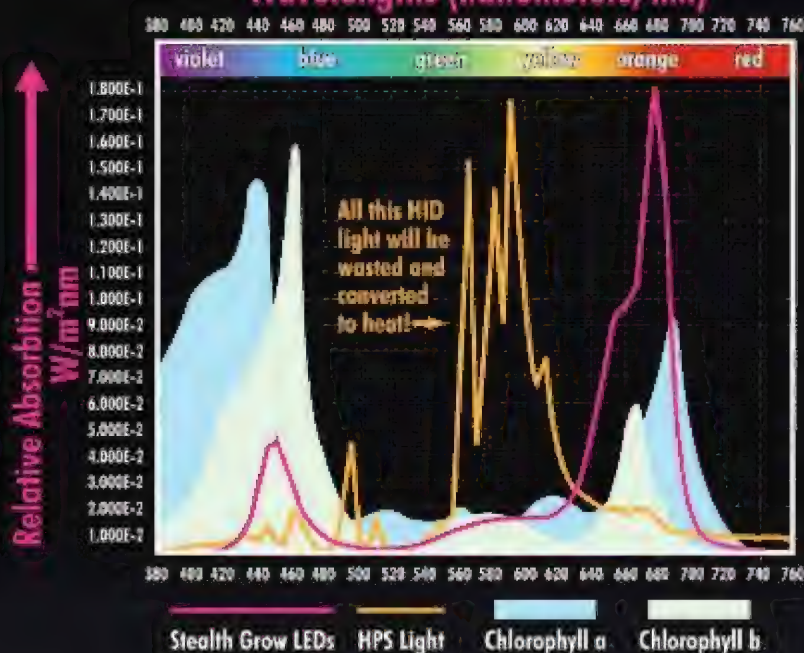
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THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW WITH MELISSA ETHERIDGE

BY DAN SKYE

Melissa Etheridge is at the tail end of her “Fearless Love” tour. Her suite at the Palms in Las Vegas overlooks the sprawling desert suburbs. Beyond that: a barren, mountainous emptiness. She scans the stark contrast and laughs: “Ya know, I’m all about finding balance, but it looks like we missed the boat here.”

Etheridge is funny and irreverent as she pokes fun at her image as an activist. As one of the world’s top women rockers—whose music and popularity crosses over several audiences—she acknowledges the power of her celebrity but praises the efforts of “real workers” first. She helps out when she can and tries to “walk the walk,” speaking out boldly for what she believes in.

Basically, Etheridge believes that we can do better. “We have grown up,” she says, “we are gaining wisdom. Let’s use it!”

A music critic once wrote that Frank Sinatra sang with extraordinary depth of feeling and emotion considering he was a thug at heart. How essential is it for singers to sing from the heart?

Well, I think that’s what resonates with people. As for Frank Sinatra, I think, yeah, maybe he was a thug at heart, but you still go through pain. He knew how to touch on that.

I know what it’s like to be a performer and have your own inner-heart issues. To put it out into music is really powerful. It can also kill you. When I was diagnosed with breast cancer, I realized what I could do: I needed to heal my heart more. There is a reason I got cancer. I am sort of a believer in the spiritual aspect of disease.

So you believe cancer enhanced your spirituality?

Definitely. There comes a point where you sort of realize there is more going on here. For a long time, I had been thinking spiritually, and when I got cancer, it slowed me down. It completely stopped my other life—my success. I had to stop and be completely still.

I was on chemotherapy, and it was horrible.

But the pain was alleviated by cannabis. It was awesome ... truly. I was able to sit there and really see that health is just balance. Cannabis helps balance. If we had reputable tests done on stress and cannabis and alleviation of pain, doctors would prescribe it all the time—and they should.

Patients often don’t reach that spiritual plane. It remains a question of “Why me?”

Sometimes that’s what it’s about, too. I think cancer is not a “something” out there that finds you; it’s the body’s way of telling you something is wrong—you’re too acidic, your *yin* is too much compared to your *yang*. It’s the whole thing. It goes back to that which is simple—and we complicate it.

Do you have some conception of what caused your cancer?

It depends how you’re looking at it. Is it something that went wrong with my physical body? Well, you can listen to the doctors. Every doctor I talked to said that cancer starts when cells go bad. I started thinking, “Why do cells go bad?” None of them

were telling me why—I had to do my own research into that.

There were extensive studies done by a doctor in the ‘20s and ‘30s, who showed that cells go bad when they are too acidic, when our pH balance is off. Our pH balance comes from vegetables, fruits, whole grains and meditation. So you really have to change your lifestyle to do that.

Can you describe the experience of chemotherapy?

They found a cocktail of poison that will kill every dividing cell in your body. They found these other shots that they can give you to keep the white and red blood cells up. It is drug warfare in your body.

It is *crazy*. They can take you just to the point of death, and then they let you come back up. Then they do it again. You do it five, 10 times. It’s pretty insane—it’s like what bloodletting used to be. I think it is super-barbaric.

I know there are some cases where there is a tumor or something and chemo has had an effect, and that’s great—but this is a *habit*. Instead of looking at changing lifestyle, diet and such, they use chemo so the cancer doesn’t come back. There are different kinds. I used AC-Taxol chemotherapy. AC just wrecks your gastrointestinal system; nothing tastes good. Your taste buds are shot, so you don’t want to eat. Pot gives you the appetite. It relieves the nausea so you can eat and have the strength to go through it.

It doesn’t make sense to me. That’s why I think our medical system is in crisis. We work ourselves to death here in America so that, when we are facing death, we’re able to pay for it. What are we *doing*?

All we need to do is rethink this. We are good thinkers.

Plant medicines have been around for thou-



Etheridge calls herself a "sativa girl."

sands of years—forever. This plant, this weed that grows naturally, has been present since the beginning of recorded history. There are chemical drugs that humans have made, but they cause constipation and other side effects. And you may have to take four more additional medicines to adjust to the one. But you also have something that you can eat or inhale, and it will make you feel good.

Did your music help you?

When it was at its worst, just after chemo, there would be about four or five days where any light or sound would be so painful, I didn't want to be touched. If I could lay still and find that center, I would feel no pain. So music—no. Sometimes, two days or a day before the next round of chemo, I'd start feeling better and maybe could listen to music. I would enjoy those times when I could.

How did your kids react to your illness?

Well, they were six and eight, and I didn't want them to think I was dying, because I wasn't. I just told them that the treatment was going to be really hard and I was going to have to lie down a lot. I tried not to get too dramatic.

You're going to be 50. According to the median age for females in America, your life is two-thirds over. So what drives you?

That's funny—I don't think my life is two-thirds gone. I actually feel it has just begun. It's not about the age of my body; it's about what I am creating. That's what is so exciting now. I am creating a level—stress-free and fearless. It's fun. I totally love myself.

Many describe you as an activist. Have you always felt a responsibility toward social causes?

I think that people project that on me. I just say "yes" and show up to a couple of things. People perceive—because I stand up and say things and

speak openly about my breast cancer and going bald—that I am out there fighting the fight. Also, because I did a song about the need to wake up.

Okay, I do live my life environmentally. I drive a car which uses biofuel because I want to be that way and see that change in the world. And every now and again, I will show up for a biofuel event, because I do believe that we need to get off petroleum. But there are people who are doing a lot of hard work 24/7, every day. We can all be crusaders by speaking truthfully. That's the biggest work that I do.

Last year, 141 scientists signed a letter which stated there is no reason to impose public policy because there is no convincing evidence to prove global warming. How do you respond to that? I think whenever any conflict comes up, whatever it is, we all benefit if we can pull out of the conflict and look further. Anytime we divide ourselves—when environmentalists say it's the end of the world, and these people say that we're far from it—we can try and find a middle.

I think it's kind of obvious that we can't go on making plastic. There are things we need to change environmentally. As for global warming, I don't think we're going to burn to a crisp in a few years, but I am not an alarmist. We need to get off of oil—not just because it is hurting our earth, but because it is hurting our cultures.

Do you see any parallels with the issue of marijuana?

It's all the same thing—but we are growing up. We grew up in a very polarized society: good and bad, black and white, straight and gay. My parents grew up in a seriously racist society with serious divisions. But I think that we are reaching the age of wisdom. We've seen this a few times where we say, "Let's think clearly about this." I think we are finally at that place with marijuana. We all know it's not hurting anybody. It has been part of the culture for years—America has always had a pot culture.

You use marijuana medically—probably recreationally as well, which is the same thing when you get down to it

There you are—excellent! Yes, that's it! Who's to say that at the end of the evening, after my day is done, that it isn't excellent *medicine* to relax with? It's great medicine! You get a good night's sleep, and thank you very much.

Are there certain strains that you favor?

I'm very much a *sativa* girl; the *indicas* just put me to sleep. I mean, if I'm having trouble sleeping, then, medicinally, I would use an *indica*. But a *sativa* allows me to function and still keeps my stress level lower, and that keeps my acid reflux lower.

Mathematicians say their thought processes are characterized by equations. Musicians say they think musically. Do you?

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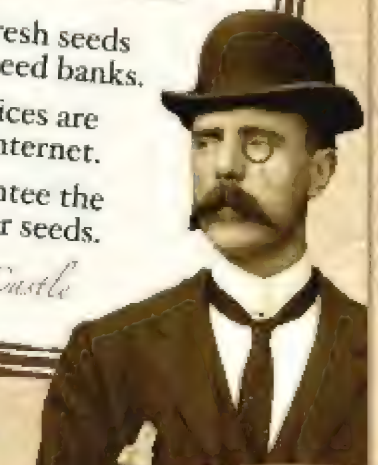
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the high times interview



Winning the Oscar for Best Original Song.
"I Need to Wake Up," from *An Inconvenient Truth*.

People often comment on your raw, edgy rock voice. How does a singer find their voice?

I started singing country music first. I enjoyed rock'n'roll music, but the first band I was able to be in played country music. I have these recordings of me when I was about 14, and it wasn't really so different. I don't know anything you can do to get a specific voice.

Before you came out publicly as a gay woman, you said you worried about how you would be perceived.

Yeah, it was fear of not knowing, because there really wasn't anyone that I could look to and see what it might be like. It was difficult—not knowing what was going to happen, but knowing that I couldn't live without being out.

Any misgivings about that?

At this point, it is "no."

You had a lot of success before you came out, but now your personal life is covered by TMZ. What's that like?

It sucks. It's horrible. You really can't win that game—you are damned if you do and damned if you don't. No one knows the truth, no one knows what's going on—it is so *personal*. There is no way I could sit down with anybody and talk about that stuff. People want to make judgments: "This person is good; this one is bad." You have to know it's just mythology.

Ken Mehlman recently came out of the closet. He served in the Bush administration and actually opposed gay rights. Any reaction?

Part of me is like, "Yay, good for you!" Then there's "Motherfucker, go back in the closet!" Every time someone pushes the hardest and hates the most—well, it turns out you are what you fear. They hate themselves.

Where do you feel the most pressure in your life?

All of it I cause for myself. I believe that anything

'There is a wisdom in the thousands of years of history and mythology. The scientific paradigm has reached the point of spirit.'

that is out there, I am creating. So I can't blame anybody but me. And I would probably say that the place I'm learning from most right now is my own personal and emotional relationships, whether it's those with my children or with grownups. It's about finding my way—and how much power I give other people.

What is the biggest misconception people have about you?

I don't know ... I'm taller than I am? [Laughs]

People are going to think what they think.

Has anything in the media gotten a rise out of you lately?

Media is just junk food. Any news that I need to hear usually finds its way to me. But all that noise—it's *just* noise.

Right now, people are very fearful of the economy, and social issues aren't their foremost concern. Do you remain optimistic?

Yes. Fear has been a societal tool: Keeping us in fear of our jobs and our money keeps us separated. But I am very optimistic that millions of people are starting to see that communities work. When we all work together, it's better for all of us.

We are going through the chaos. Chaos is necessary for change—and we are going through huge change right now. We are going to look back, and we will see that we are all older now. We'll remember the turn of the century and how our whole society crumbled because that paradigm, the capitalist paradigm that has taken over the world, doesn't work.

Then we realized that it comes from ourselves. There is spirituality. There is a connect-edness. There is a wisdom in the thousands of years of history and mythology. The scientific paradigm has reached the point of the spirit. So I am very optimistic. I will sit here and share a bud with you and talk about it for hours. I also incorporate it into my show—emotion and hope, intentional creation—but very subtly. Some of the audience doesn't understand what I'm talking about. But I meet people all the time and they're like: "Something is happening!"

We are all starting to vibrate. That's why music is important—it's all vibrations. I believe we are beginning to vibrate on a higher level. We are starting to comprehend. ✨

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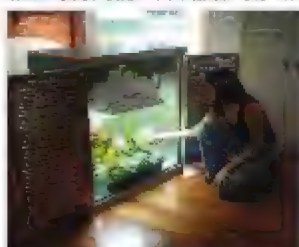
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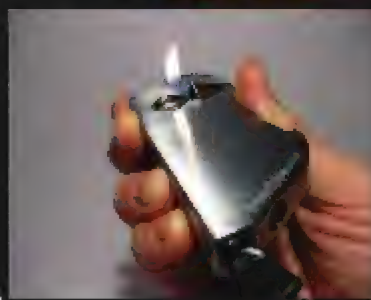
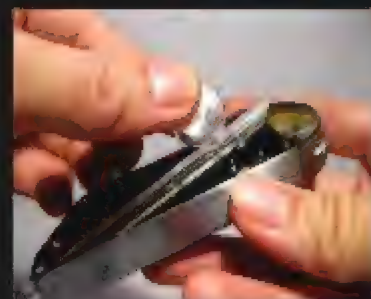
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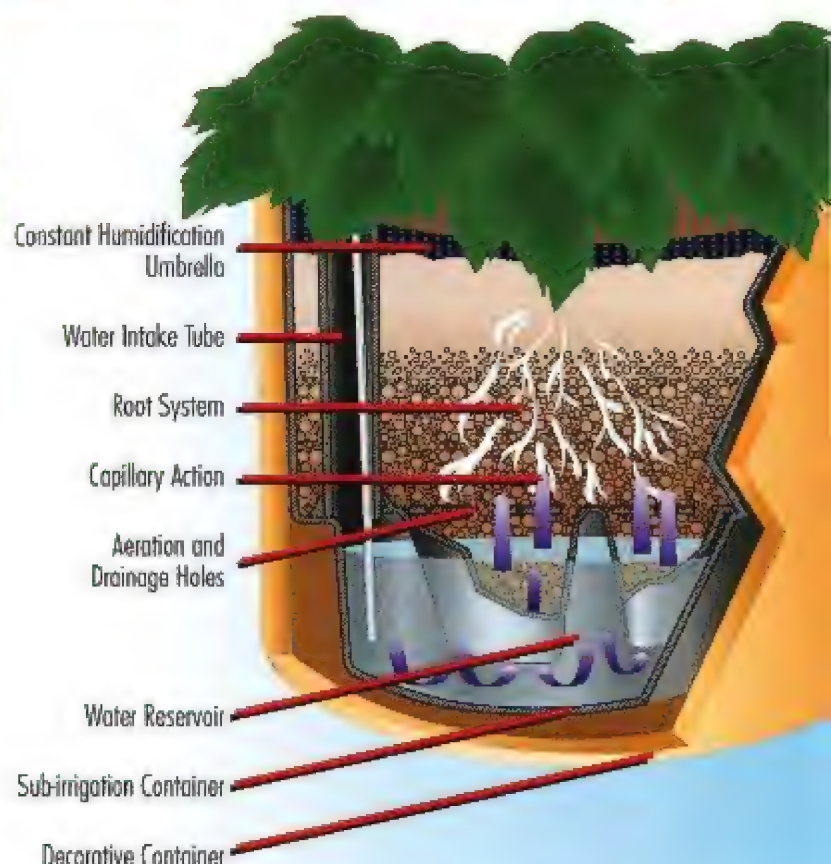


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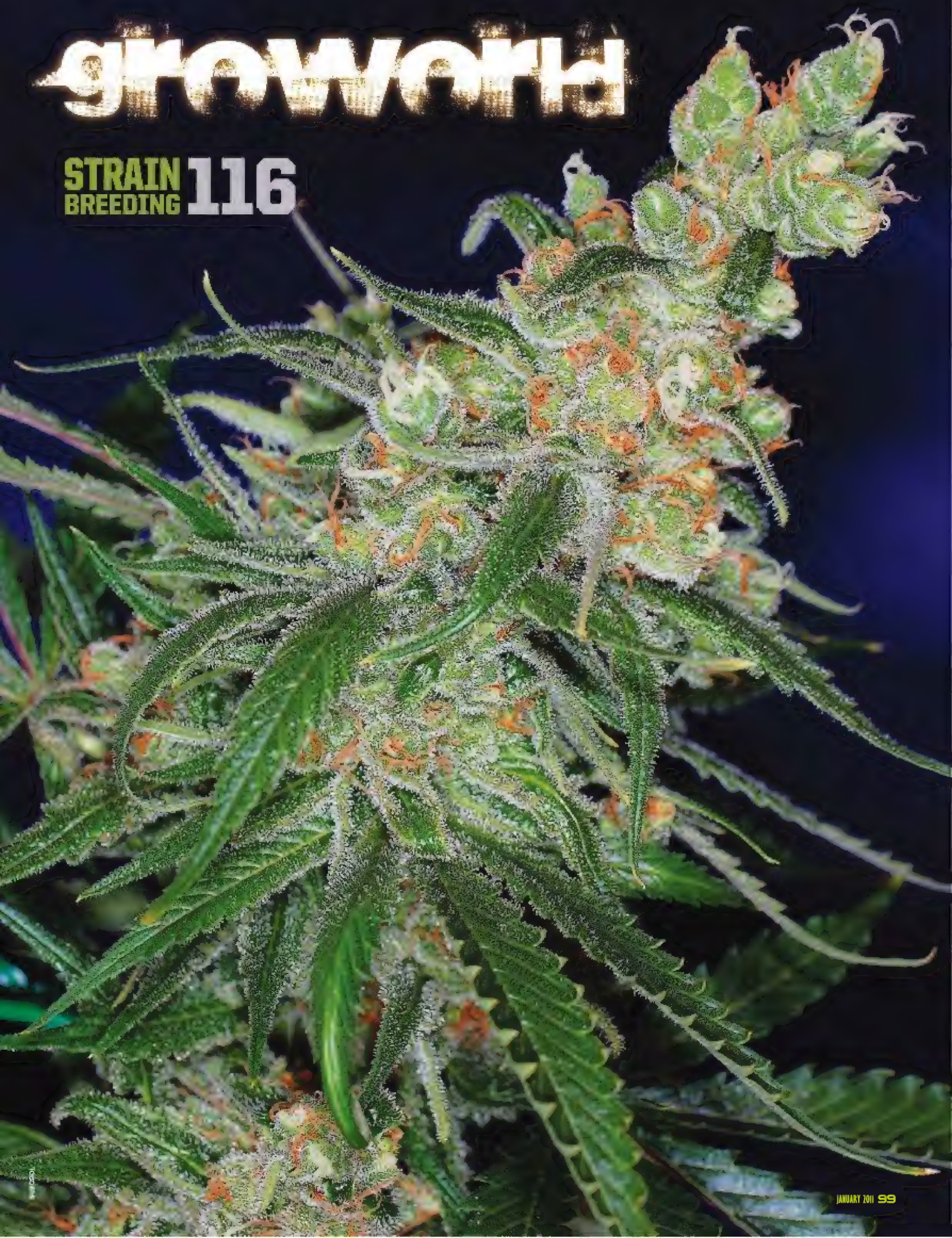
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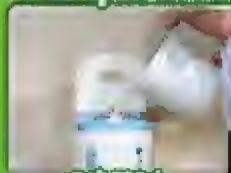
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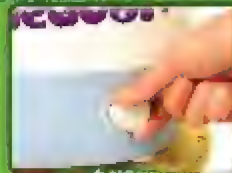
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AK STILL OK (above)
Hey HT, check out this budding explosion of red and green.
—No Name



DIESELLY DELICIOUS (far left)

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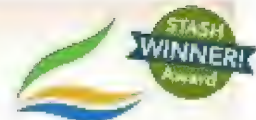
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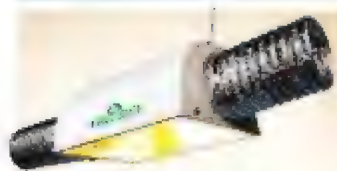
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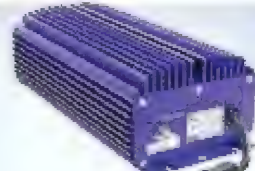
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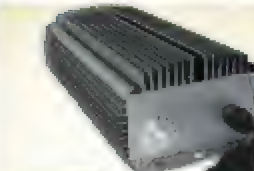
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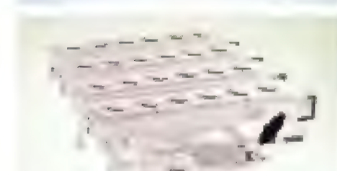
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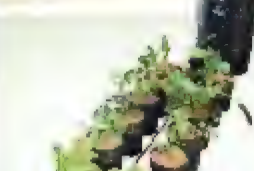
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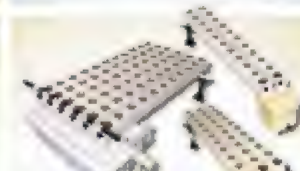
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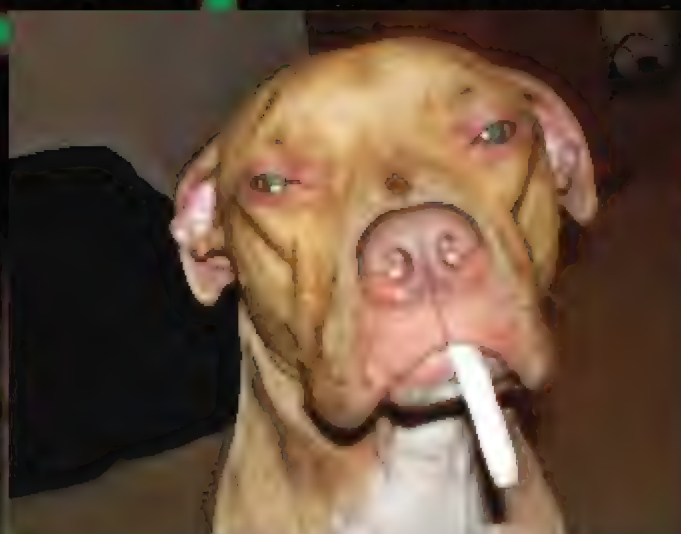
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BLUE DREAM (left)

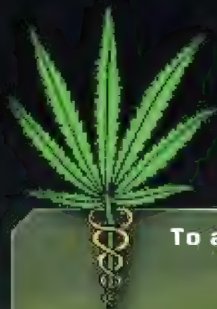
Here's some Himalayan Blue Diesel. Incredible aromatic scent! Grown under Central Cal 100-degree sunshine. Nothin' like auto-flowering; these are 7 weeks old.—Chronic Dave



YABBA GRABBA DOOBIE

Here's a pic of my dog. He's a big fan of HIGH TIMES and Scooby Snacks!—Alphonse

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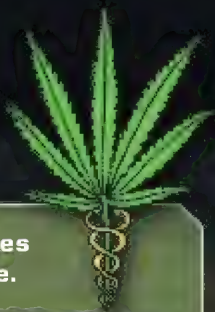
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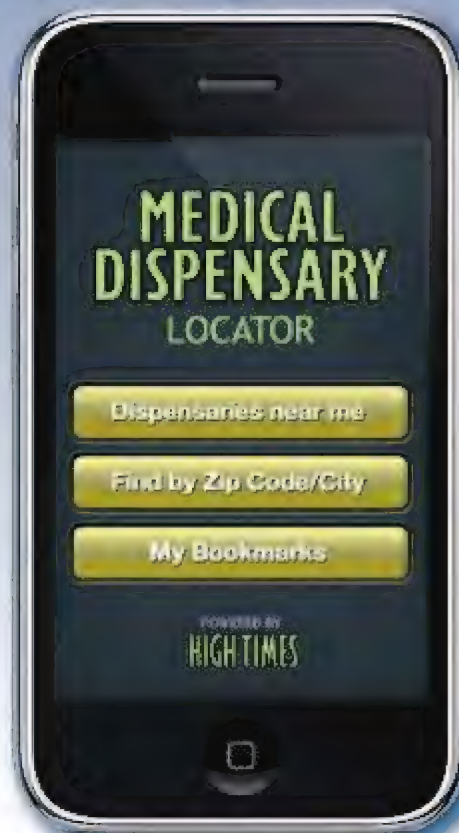
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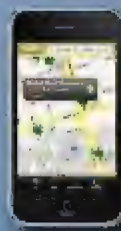


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AMPLIFYING THE MOVEMENT

SSDP and musicians team up to make a difference. By Jonathan Perri

In early 2009, Students for Sensible Drug Policy launched the AMPLIFY Project, which stands for Artists Making Political Leadership Inspirational For Youth. We realized that with nearly 150 chapters on college campuses across the country, SSDP was poised to create a mutually beneficial relationship with bands that tour nationally and support our work to bring sensible reform to our nation's drug policies.

The project works like this: When a band on tour comes through a city like San Francisco, they'll send out promotional materials to our chapters at San Francisco State University and UC Berkeley, who will promote the show on their campuses and on social-media sites like Facebook. In exchange, the band secures a table at their show where SSDP chapter members can collect email addresses and petition signatures, hand out information, register voters and talk with concertgoers about SSDP.

For artists, the relationship is a no-brainer—it's like having 150 street teams already formed and active in the cities they're playing. SSDP chapters are strong promoters who already have plenty of experience organizing and promoting their own events on campus. Most importantly, AMPLIFY allows artists to support a just cause. The artists put a link to SSDP's website somewhere on their own websites, announce their partnership with SSDP in an email blast to fans, promote the organization on their Facebook pages, and donate signed posters or



SSDP rocks out.

CDs that we can raffle off to raise money and build our email list.

Bands that join the project are called AMPLIFYers. John Brown's Body, Slightly Stoopid, Lotus and Roots of Creation are a few of the artists that have really gone above and beyond to support SSDP. John Brown's Body, for example, have put

our logo on thousands of posters and handbills for their tours, gaining us fantastic exposure.

The band's drummer, Tommy Bennedit, has found the project to be uplifting: "Everyone we've met through SSDP has been so knowledgeable and passionate about their activism, and that's inspiring for us. It's right in the name: 'Sensible.' There just seems to be no common sense in some of our current drug policies."

AMPLIFY has really taken off over the past year, with SSDP chapters participating in over 100 concerts. We also have a guide to help students make the most out of the project. Activism with SSDP is hard work, and AMPLIFY provides a way to have fun while changing the world and listening to great live music.

The project is currently being coordinated by Chris Wallis, an alum of the SSDP chapter at Kent State University in Ohio. Artists interested in joining AMPLIFY should email Chris at amplify@ssdp.org. ✱

Jonathan Perri is the associate director of Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

Freedom Fighter

SHOWING SOME INITIATIVE

Oregon's Anthony Johnson authors a medical-marijuana ballot initiative.

This month's Freedom Fighter, Anthony Johnson of Oregon, is the perfect role model for college students to emulate if they wish to turn a passion for cannabis and a dedication to civil liberties into meaningful change. Johnson got his start in political activism with the University of Missouri NORML chapter, and later helped found the university's SSDP chapter. Johnson also became president of his law school's ACLU chapter and championed the case of a man later spared from death row.

In 2003, Johnson (along with NORML board member Dan Viets) authored a municipal ballot measure to decriminalize and medicalize marijuana, which ended up losing but still garnered 43 percent of the vote. Undeterred, in 2004 Johnson split the effort into two separate measures. The decriminalization measure eventually passed with 61 percent of the vote, while the medical measure passed with 69 percent.

Afterwards, Johnson moved to Oregon and practiced law for two years with NORML lawyer Leland

Berger. In 2006, he was hired as political director of the cannabis-law reform organization Voter Power and co-authored the dispensary initiative that would become Measure 74, the Oregon Regulated Medical Marijuana Supply System. Even without the usual attention and big-money donations that accompany a major statewide initiative, Johnson rallied activists to collect the 86,000-plus signatures needed to qualify it for the Oregon ballot in 2010.

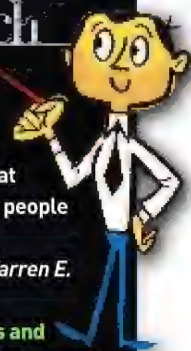
By the time you're reading this, you'll know whether Johnson and other Oregon activists were successful in creating a regulated dispensary system supplied by small-time producers subject only to a \$1,000 licensing fee. But by going from a NORML college-chapter member to the author of medical-marijuana initiatives on a statewide ballot, Anthony Johnson is already a Freedom Fighter worth celebrating. —Russ Bellville

Listen to NORML's daily audio podcast at stash.norml.org.



Anthony Johnson

ask dr. mitch



Dr. Mitch,
I keep hearing there's a study about this and a study about that. Is there a place that collects marijuana studies so people can read them?

Warren E.

Hi Warren,
Many local libraries, colleges and universities have access to Medline and PsycInfo, the two big repositories of research. Medscape.com will let you join for free and give you access to the abstracts of most of these as well. NORML.org has great summaries of all the important stuff, too.

Do edibles lead to stomach ulcers?

Hugh Beaumont

Hi Hugh,
Nope! The gastric system has tons of cannabinoid receptors, but stimulating them tends to protect the stomach from ulcers, not create them. Sounds like more anti-cannabis propaganda to me.

I live in Gautier, MS. Didn't Gautier smoke the chronic?

Ann E.

Hi Ann,
Théophile Gautier was a French poet and storyteller in the 1800s. (He even wrote a ballet.) He hung out with Alexandre Dumas, the author of *The Three Musketeers*, and other prominent members of the Hashish Club. But these guys never smoked; instead, they ate hash in tasty desserts. From what I learned during my internship in Jackson, MS, however, your town is named after a local family who wasn't connected to this famous artist.

A local teacher claims that marijuana users are less likely to finish high school and go to college. True?

Ed Thorndike

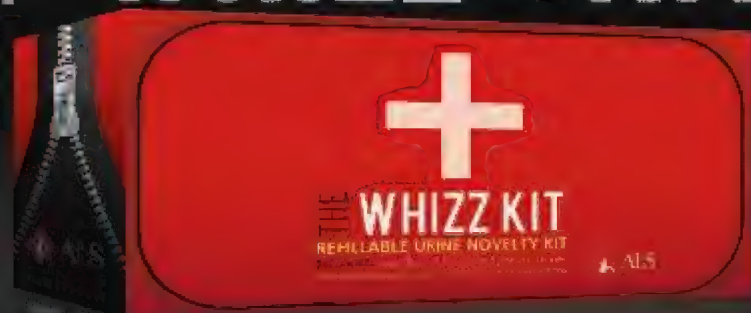
Hi Ed,
This one's true: Research in Australia suggests that folks who use pot before the age of 15 are markedly less likely to finish high school and get a college degree than those who wait until after age 18. The researchers controlled for all the obvious factors, like how much money a student's family has. I don't think that marijuana actually causes people to drop out of school. Still, those who wait until they're adults to use cannabis often get more education.

Dr. Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana. Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at 420research@gmail.com.



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munchies

GANJA MAYO

A gelatinous emulsion with cannabis propulsion. By Ashley Boudreaux

This month we're winding back the clock a few centuries to re-examine some culinary basics—because with a solid foundation, the possibilities are only as limited as your imagination and your pantry supplies. So step into my time machine, cue the weird music and pass that fatty.

At the height of the French Revolution, a boy named Antonin Carême was abandoned on the streets of Paris and taken in by a cook who made him earn his keep by toiling away in the kitchen. As Carême grew in stature and skill, he began creating fantastic, over-the-top table centerpieces made of pastry and spun sugar. Eventually, his epicurean delights graced the tables of Napoleon, the Romanovs and King George IV. Carême invented the chef's hat, and caramel was named after him. He was also responsible for the rise of the tomato in French cuisine. The guy was a fucking rock star. He was the first celebrity chef, stroking the taste buds of the rich and famous before the "father of French cuisine," Auguste Escoffier, was even born.

Carême believed that there were four basic families of sauces from which hundreds of variations and recipes could be created by adding things like cheese, wine and spices. All of these sauces are roux-based, which means they're cannabis-friendly: Cannabi-

noids bond with fats, and roux is simply fat and flour in equal parts simmered to a thick paste designed to be used as a thickening agent. The longer it cooks, the nuttier its flavor, and the deeper the body of the dish—but

the less it thickens the dish it supports.

Carême's four major sauces were as follows: *béchamel*, a light blonde roux with scalded milk added; *espagnole*, a dark roux with veal stock or water; *velouté*, a blonde roux with chicken, veal or fish stock; and *allemande*, which is similar to velouté, but thickened with egg yolks, lemon and cream.

Some folks have argued that *allemande* shouldn't count, since it's a compound sauce. Auguste Escoffier must not have held it in very high regard; when he attained culinary fame in the next century, he tweaked Carême's "mother sauces," ditching the *allemande* and adding tomato sauce, Hollandaise and mayonnaise to the list. The latter two were related to velouté—both use egg yolks and lemon juice. So, although mayonnaise had been around since at least 1756, it was given its "mother sauce" designation by Escoffier. Mayo may not seem like an appropriate addition to that list, but it *is* an emulsified sauce, and it provides the foundation for other things like *rémoulade* and *aioli*. Mayo is also a crucial ingredient in a whole bunch of savory dishes, dips and salads—it's so versatile, in fact, that we rarely give it much thought. But pair it up with ganja? Well, that just puts it on a much higher plane. ✨



A cannabis condiment.

GANJA MAYONNAISE

1 cup soybean oil
 ¼ oz ganja shake
 2 large egg yolks
 1 tsp fresh lemon juice
 1 tsp white vinegar
 ½ tsp Dijon mustard
 1 pinch salt

(Note: You should give this recipe a run-through once without the ganja, just to get the feel for proper oil/yolk emulsification, because if the mayo "breaks" with the ganja in it—well, that could be a financial bite.)

In a double-boiler, combine the oil and ganja. Heat over low until the ganja smell is pronounced, but not nutty or burnt. (The oil should have an earthy green tint to it.) Let cool. Remove and squeeze the weed. Make sure that *all* of your ingredients have been brought to room temperature—this is crucial! In a blender (an immersion blender, preferably) or a small metal bowl (use a whisk), thoroughly blend the egg yolk, lemon juice, salt, vinegar and mustard. Using a ¼ teaspoon measure, very slowly add the oil, a few drops at a time, while constantly whisking or blending on low until the mayo is thick and starting to form ribbons. (If it's too thick, you can add room-temperature water in tiny increments.) If your mixture breaks, it can be repaired by whisking some more room-temperature egg yolks in a separate bowl, then slowly whisking in the broken-mayo mixture. If that doesn't do it, add a few drops of hot water. Cover and chill; it'll keep for about four to five days. **Stones 12 to 14.**

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BY NICO ESCONDIDO

EVERYTHING MEDICAL & MORE

Welcome to our mini-section devoted wholly to medicinal strains, news, uses, developments, activism, politics ... everything and anything, really, that is medically related to marijuana. This is your *Cannabis Clinic*!

New Study Finds Cannabis Use Beats Pain

We have to be honest here, folks: We at HIGH TIMES get a good chuckle every time some big news conglomerate (in this case, CBS blew up the story) reports on a "new" study that shows marijuana helps people medically. In this story, the big newflash out of Canada was on research that showed that the regular use of cannabis can treat chronic pain in patients. Yeah, thanks for the update, CBS.

Studies on the medical uses of cannabis (and reports on the positive effects therein) have been going on for the past 40 years (or centuries if you count the medicinal uses of native people around the world). But these days, medical marijuana is a trend, and it's suddenly hip to be positive about cannabis. Well, welcome to the bandwagon, big media—nice to have you aboard (though we know you'll jump ship at the first sign of backlash against MMJ, which is inevitable).

But okay, enough belittling the mass media. This study is actually pretty interesting, since it shows that smoking cannabis three times a day for about a week can reduce chronic pain and help patients sleep better. Statistics released by the Canadian Medical Association showed that a single inhalation of 25 mg of 9.4% tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) herbal cannabis three times daily for five days reduced the intensity of pain, improved sleep and was well tolerated by the 21 participants who completed the trial.

More information can be found at www.cmaj.ca (or you can search CBS.com for the network's groundbreaking take on it as well).



With a strong *indica* high, sweet grape flavor and an extraordinary look, The Purps is a popular medical strain.

Medicinal Strain of the Month: The Purps

An ever-popular cannabis strain that traverses a multitude of varieties, flavors and treatments, the Purps is often viewed as a mélange of different genetics, all with one common thread: their purple color. However, the Purps, which is in fact a stand-alone strain, can easily be confused with the likes of numerous other purple strains such as Granddaddy Purple or Purple Urkel. Some growers like to assert that these strains are actually all the same, since they all originate in or near Northern California, but it's more likely that these varieties are siblings and share a common parent.

The Purps is identifiable by its unmistakable grape aroma and flavor as well as its interwoven orange hairs and tiny purple sugar leaves. Its pungent smell alone is enough to entice patients, let alone its exotic look. An *indica*-dominant strain, the Purps produces tight, dense nugs that pack a powerful punch.

Whether grown indoors or out, the Purps is generally a great yielder. When flushed properly, her flavor is explosive and lingers on the palate. Patients around the world find her medicinal properties particularly healing when dealing with muscle pain and other pain-related symptoms. The Purps is also great for treating anxiety and stress, as she possesses above-average counts of cannabidiol (CBD).

New Mexico Proposes MMJ Tax on Medical Growers

Late this summer, New Mexico proposed what it called "an administrative fee" to help the state Department of Health fund its medical-marijuana program. However, the annual "fee" was actually equal to seven percent of a grower's total annual gross receipts, which some might

call a "sales tax." There was also a proposed increase in the application fee for would-be medical-marijuana producers, from \$100 to \$1,000.

Currently in New Mexico, the medical-marijuana law provides an application process for growers who wish to become licensed nonprofits and grow medical cannabis for patients. The Department of Health spent over a year creating regula-

tions for this system of state-licensed nonprofit growers after NM passed its medical-marijuana law in 2007. As of September 2010, there were 2,250 active medical-marijuana patients in the state, 1,022 of whom were licensed to grow their own supply.

The state estimates that medical growers can earn anywhere from \$300,000 to \$400,000 in gross revenue per year. So if, say, 1,000 growers each generate \$300,000 a year, the state can garner \$21 million with its annual tax—a staggering number during a time in which states across the US are looking for ways to bolster their budgets. This tax would also help the program be financially self-sufficient, since it's been funded from other Health Department programs and projects up to this point.

Several other proposed changes to the medical law include keeping confidential the names of doctors who certify that a patient's condition warrants a cannabis prescription. In NM, medical practitioners do not actually prescribe cannabis; rather, they declare that patients have any one of 16 ailments that have been approved for treatment by medical marijuana, as stipulated by the legislation. Approved patients are then allowed to possess up to six ounces of medical cannabis at any one time.

Additionally, a new testing program has been proposed as part of the revised medical program. If implemented, samples of medical marijuana would be lab-tested for mold or other contaminants. The state is also proposing open and closed enrollment periods for new growers to apply. NM licensed its first grower in March of 2009 and currently has 11 state-certified growers. Applicants face harsh screening procedures, however, according to the Health Department, and those that qualify are limited to a total of 95 plants and seedlings, with an inventory that is restricted according to the needs of registered patients.

Perhaps what is most interesting and unique in all of the revisions is that the new legislation would provide for a patient's possession of seeds—one of the first revisions of its kind in any of the 15 medicinal states. Patients licensed by the state to cultivate their own medicine would be allowed to obtain no more than 16 seeds from a nonprofit grower within a three-month period. ✨

Got medical questions? Pass 'em over to Nico at nico@hightimes.com.



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STRAIN BREEDING

Facts, history and a guide to some of North America's top strains.

Story and photos by Subcool

The following note sets are from renowned cannabis breeder and medical grower Subcool and include background and descriptions of some of the world's top strains, including Apollo 13 (BX), Vortex and Black Russian (which has disappeared). Vortex took home first place in the Sativa category at the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in San Francisco this past June.

Apollo 13 grows long, fat and sticky colas.

THE BEGINNING

The story of Apollo 13 begins with the Brothers Grimm, cannabis breeders who were only around for a short time but had a huge impact on my cannabis collection and genetics stock. One of their preeminent strain creations was the fabled Apollo 13, and it is without a doubt one of my all-time favorites. Never mind the fact that she produced some of the best red-colored bubble hash ever made, or that her buds have amazing potency—her best quality may very well be the genetics locked inside, which produce extraordinary hybrids when used in breeding projects!

I have written extensively on the history of Apollo 13, but just in case you're unfamiliar with the strain, allow me to cover some basic facts. Apollo 13 is a cross between Genius and P-75, two strains created by the Brothers Grimm. I grew Genius about eight years ago, at the same time I was growing Apollo 13, and I actually let that cutting go because of her small yields. Back then, I was much more concerned with yield over quality, but I regret that now, as Genius (an Apollo 11 phenotype) was my second-favorite smoke—and considering that Apollo is still one of my favorites to this day, I'm sure that Genius would have been as well.

Only 500 Apollo 13 seeds were ever produced, so it was rare to begin with—and then, out of that small gene pool, only three cuttings that I'm aware of survive to this day from the original stock. We were lucky enough to have saved not only two packs of seeds, but also to acquire one of the prized female cuttings from someone close to the source. It's very hard to describe Apollo 13, as she is unique among cannabis plants (excluding her hybrids). She has a very strong aroma that is a mix of sour fruit and black pepper, as well as an underlying citrus scent that mixes with the general skunkiness. Here's what the Brothers Grimm had to say:

Apollo 13: This skunky girl will make your eyes water with her pungent perfume. The delicate balance of indica/sativa makes Apollo 13 perfect for growers limited to a single strain. The long, fat colas and sparkling, sticky side branches really weigh in at harvest time. This is the type of smoke you can't hold down; it expands and "blasts off" from the lungs. The high is clear and cerebral, without a hint of paranoia. Her citrus flavor and happy high make Apollo 13 very popular at parties! Two hits and you can leave your own footprints on the moon. Flowering: 45-55 days. Height: 120-150 cm. Yield: 400 gm/m2.

So for years I grew this girl out, writing stories about her exploits and making some great hash along the way. Finally, when I got into breeding cannabis, I used her to create one of my award-winning strains, combining Apollo 13 with Space Queen to create an instant winner in Vortex—easily one of the best hybrids I've ever done. Supporters of my work (both at home and online) urged me to continue my work with the Apollo 13 and backcross the mother plant in order to produce what we in the breeding game call a BX (B = back and X = cross). This process is the method of using a plant's sibling male to pollinate the mother plant (hence the "backcross") in order to produce a hybrid with additional (or stronger) traits from that mother plant.

In theory, each time a backcross is performed, the resulting seeds produce plants more and more like the mother plant (though this isn't always the case, as different phenotypes may be expressed in the offspring). Usually, though, each time the step is repeated (i.e., over numerous backcrossings), the desirable traits of the mother plant are increased. However, I should also note that if a grower continues the process, there is not—or so I have found—a great benefit as far as stability goes. One proper backcross of the correct plants, however, can yield an amazingly close replica of the mother plant in high numbers.



A close look at Apollo 13 reveals numerous glandular trichomes.

THE HOW

Once I was finally talked into this project by lovers of the Apollo 13, I started by germinating 20 Vortex seeds in order to find 10 suitable males to select for a breeding program. As luck would have it, I got 19 female plants—and even though the one male in the bunch was a good one, we decided to scrap that project for the time being. Later that year, I had another legal grower start 40 seeds for me, and over time we worked our way down to four nice males that we put through our selection process until we found the one male that performed as we wanted.

This process is very intricate and time-consuming, since the only way to check the traits of a male is to breed it with a known female; the resulting seeds are then grown out, and the hybrid that most resembles the mom is noted and the male plant that produced this effect is saved. This is how we created the Apollo 13 BX, but I did have one timesaving trick: As a contributor to many medical groups, I can donate these crosses to medical growers and then collect their information and apply it to my research. This saves a great deal of time, and I think it works better than having one person trying to track hundreds of plants over time.

By compiling this information in 2009, we were ready to do a test release of our Apollo 13 BX to some medical growers and then kick back to watch the findings come in. At the same time, I had some people close to me start a few packs so we could observe how the hybrid compared to the Apollo 13 mother plant. I knew we had a winner early on, but kept quiet as I saw plants in early growth just covered in resin. By week three of budding, I could start to smell traits I was already very familiar with in the BX. We released the strain privately late in 2009 and again sat back and waited as the gardens bloomed and the results came in. Once we were sufficiently impressed, the strain went live to the public in 2010 and quickly sold out in the first few weeks, leaving us scrambling to make more.

Apollo 13 proved to be a great choice to cross with Vortex.



In the end, the Apollo 13 BX turned out to be the spitting image of her mother, and I'm hard-pressed to tell the difference when looking at my own pictures of the two. What's even more impressive is the collection of pictures I have from growers of the Apollo 13 BX, which look like I gave them my mother clone instead of seeds to start. I am completely satisfied with the results, and I can't wait to get a sample lab-tested for potency, as I suspect it will be off the charts. Much like her mom, the Apollo 13 BX's high is inspirational and motivating—as long as you don't overdo your consumption. It's a slight "creeper" high, but you still feel it quickly, and it just keeps on building. It is possible to take a few too many hits and immobilize yourself physically while your mind is running wild with way too many ideas to actually get anything done, so let the smoker beware!

Subcool's Apollo 13 x Vortex Notes

Representing thousands of hours of selective breeding, we proudly offer our first backcross of Apollo 13. Painstaking care was taken in the male selection, and the project to locate him took 60 (male) plants and over a year of trial and research. The high is instant and powerful, yet also invigorating and inspirational. The THC profile of Apollo 13 really provides a boost of mental energy. Apollo 13 is prized for the very red bubble hash it produces, and many growers dream of processing the entire plant into hashish—including the buds!

Vital Statistics - Apollo 13 x Vortex

PHENOTYPES: The dominant variation expressed from seed is a mirror of the mother plant

HEIGHT: Tall, thin *sativa* look

YIELD: Medium yield, very resinous and sticky

BEST WAY TO GROW: Ideal for indoor & outdoor operations; easy to shape and train, allows any style of growing

HARVEST WINDOW: 55-60 days

SATIVA / INDICA RATIO: 85/15

GENETICS: Apollo 13 is a cross (hybrid) between Genius and P-75 (a precursor to C-99)

HIGH: The high is clear and cerebral, without a hint of paranoia

TASTE: Almost indescribable, like sour fruit with hints of citrus and pepper

THE BLACK RUSSIAN

The Black Russian is one of the most amazing-looking strains ever to be photographed—and she's one of the main reasons I started writing. Allow me to explain: I've been growing cannabis and photographing the plant for a little less than 10 years. I love documenting as many strains as I possibly can. To me, seeds are like a box of Cracker Jacks, and I can't wait to see the surprise I get each time I grow a new strain from seed.

I had never really submitted any work to a magazine before, choosing instead the immediate feedback of the Internet and various sites like Overgrow. Then, one day, someone I know sent photographs of a Black Russian clone of mine over to the folks at HIGH TIMES, and they were immediately published! I decided then that if a plant I was growing was going to be in a magazine, why not do it myself? I owe Black Russian a lot, since I now contribute regularly to HIGH TIMES and have even published my own book on strains, entitled *Dank*. (Check it out!)

Black Russian went on to become extremely famous, and to this day breeders offer crosses made using these hybrids that we created using the Solid Purple female and the Dark Magenta male (which is the same one we used to create the F2 that we also released). These days, however, I don't like the Black Russian very much, and we currently offer no hybrids of the parents, nor does anyone in our circle of medical growers still grow it.

But why?

I thought it would be cool to share the behind-the-scenes story and shed some light on why I don't smoke—or even grow—one of the most sought-after cannabis crosses to surface in a long time. So here goes

At first, like everyone else, I was blown away by the looks of the Black Russian female we found using seeds from Nebu. My partner Mz. Jill had met him once, and Nebu had given her a few packs of his seeds—and when I landed out west, I saw pictures of Nebu's work and figured I had to give it a shot. We shared those seeds with friends up north, and I ended up with a few females and a few males, after which I narrowed it down to one female and one male based on things I've learned to look for over the years. I actually asked Nebu if this was okay, and his response was to have at it.

Everyone but me was gaga over that Black Russian's purple buds, but I thought it had a weird taste of musk and pepper that overpowered the nice grape smell and flavor lurking underneath. Meanwhile, everyone was screaming, "Give us some Black Russian F2s!" So I did, and they were released to the growing public. About 75 percent of the females grown from seed turned an amazing color, but I still caught hell from every grower that didn't get a purple phenotype. (Damn Black Russian.)



Black Russian thickens into a dark purple spear.



Black Russian tops ready to trim and dry.

1,000 REASONS

I thought I could improve the strain's potency and taste, possibly by crossing it with one of my favorite mother plants, the Apollo 13. So I used the Black Russian male to pollinate an Apollo 13 female, thus creating the strain we called Sputnik. I grew out the new sibling cross, and we found a nice ratio of deep pink females to ones that only exhibited solid white pistils and green coloring. The surprising thing to me, however, was that the buds from the latter were so much better tasting and more severely potent than the buds from the deep pink females.

By this point, I had become convinced that potency and purple pot were not necessarily related. I stopped being so impressed with purple weed and started preaching that purple was just a color and not an indication of quality in any form other than looks. I passed the mother and father plants on to a medical grower and asked him to keep them alive (which he didn't). It was around this time that everyone that was able to get a pack of my Black Russian F2s started showing them off online—and then things really got crazy. But I had no more seeds to give out, and the few distributors still holding packs were getting prices never before heard of for cannabis seeds. The last pack went for \$1,000 (and I should make clear that none of that money went into my pocket, as I feel that's taking advantage of people).

Meanwhile, once I moved out west, I was also able to sample some of the Kushes that people liked so much: OG Kush, Bubba Kush and Chemdog. And I realized then that I dislike the flavor of Kush! No matter which strain it is or how well it's grown, I just don't like the hot taste of Kush *indicas*. But I now understand why so many people loved the Black Russian, the Sputnik and the other hybrids spun off from this work: It wasn't a bad strain, just one I didn't enjoy the taste of.

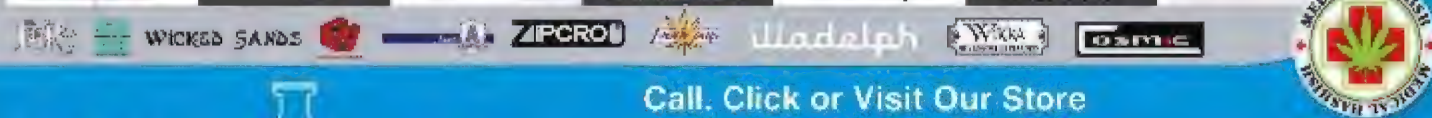
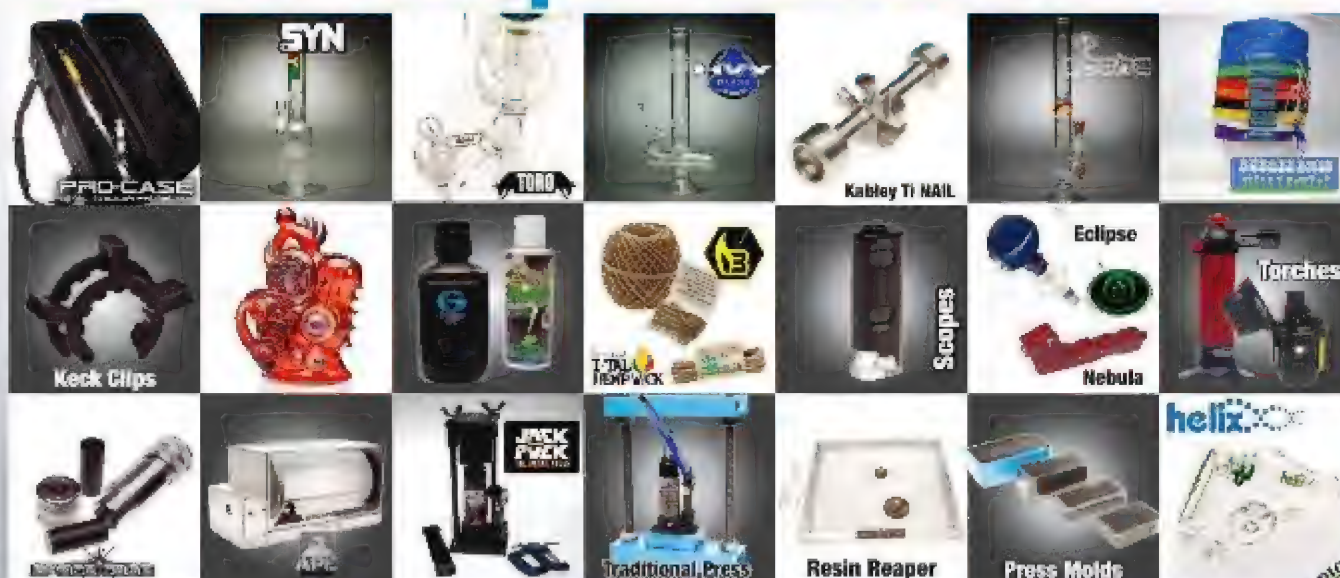
I think of it this way: Some people love blue-cheese salad dressing, while the mere thought of it makes others cringe. And the same can be said for cannabis flavors—except I discovered this too late. The whole experience did teach me that there are many, many different pot palettes (and palates), so I no longer rush to judgment based on my own personal tastes. After all, the Black Russian always got me really high—I just rarely got past the taste of the first bowl.

After our relocation out west, I was able to find an amazing-tasting Urkel female that also turns an amazing color, though nothing like the neon purple of the Black Russian. The Urkel was, however, much better pot, and the strain we created with it, Querkle, is an amazing *indica* with purple traits and a great grape flavor. So I don't hate purple anymore either—and that's a very good thing. In fact, a new hybrid we created using Querkle, this one called Qleaner, has become one of my favorite strains of all time! It tastes like grape soda but has the added potency of Jack's Cleaner.

So that's it: the story of a strain you may have seen or heard about, and why it's now more of an urban legend than it is a seed that growers can actually acquire. Several breeders still do offer hybrids they created using our past seeds, though, and that is one hell of an honor. ✨

Subcool is the author of Dank and the owner of TGA Seeds. Visit TGA Seeds at www.tgagenetics.com, or via seed banks like The Attitude (cannabis-seeds-bank.co.uk/) and Hemp Depot (hempdepot.ca).

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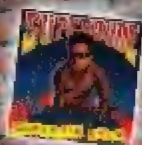
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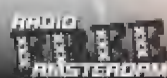
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Auto-flowering Strains

Hey there! I've been reading the magazine for a while, but my friend and I just started on our own little grow projects, and we're thinking of going with auto-flowering strains because of how quick and easy they are—but there are some regular strains I would love to try as well. So my question is: Would I be able to grow two Diesel Ryders and the Black in the same room and just vegetate the Black until the Diesel Ryder is finished, then begin my flowering photoperiod for both of them?

Lauper

Dear Lauper,
Auto-flowering strains are all the rage in Europe (many farmers in Spain won't grow anything but) as well as in parts of Canada due to their relative ease and super-short flowering times. Selective breeding has transformed the somewhat lackluster (in terms of high) *ruderalis* auto-flowerers of years past into a more potent plant that buds after a few weeks of growth, regardless of the photoperiod. Plants germinated in April can be harvested in July, long before police and thieves begin their rounds. We're especially excited about the new Haze Automatic strain from Dinafem in Spain, which combines auto-flowering characteristics with the buzz of a well-known *sativa*.

Growing auto-flowering plants alongside regular ones is fine. Your Black plants will vegetate and then flower after you've cut the light down to 12 hours a day, and the Diesel Ryders will finish around the same time, seven to eight weeks later.

Yellow Lower Leaves

As my outdoor plants are budding, the big fan leaves are starting to yellow from the bottom. Should I cut them off? Please let me know ... and thanks!

Mark

Dear Mark,
It's perfectly okay and quite effective to remove any leaves that are yellow from your plants. Typically, as plants mature, the lower leaves will start to yellow, since they are no longer being used to convert light into cellular growth. Picking the yellow leaves off will allow more light to reach the lower branches and prevent diseases and pests by removing the vulnerable places where they thrive. That's the reason sticky pest strips are yellow: Bugs are attracted to the color of struggling plant growth so they can begin their attack at a weak spot.

Removing healthy leaves is not recommended, however, because those are the "power stations" that absorb light and give a plant energy to grow. Some selective removal is okay, but al-

ways err on the side of caution when taking off fan leaves. Remember that the yellowing that occurs toward the end of the cannabis plant's life cycle is natural and a good sign that nutrients are leaching out of your plant, which means cleaner-burning and better-tasting buds.

Cannabis Careers

I have a couple of questions dealing with marijuana, and who better to go to than the almighty HIGH TIMES? For starters, I'm currently attending college for my transfer associate's degree. I have a profound love and respect for marijuana and all that she stands for: My surrogate parents are hippies, and the "cannabis way" is a lifestyle we've learned, and one that I happen to enjoy immensely. I'm also an active participant in NORML petition drives for the legalization of marijuana.

After being given the ultimatum of choosing what I'll be majoring in after obtaining my associate's degree, I've decided what I wanted to do with my life—and now we come full circle to my questions. I've read that, aside from dispensaries, careers dealing with marijuana are few and far between, consisting mostly of growing or providing legal counsel. So I'm curious: Do you know what steps or classes I would need to take to begin growing or legally become involved in strain

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development or crossbreeding? I'm thinking horticulture classes, biology, plant anatomy, science, etc., but I'm not sure ... which is where you come in. I'm never one to waste time; I know that if I'm to choose a profession, I not only have to be completely immersed in the subject, but I need to be passionate about it, and I need to know that I'm making a difference for something I believe in strongly—and that describes my views on cannabis.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and (hopefully) give me a response.

Krista

Dear Krista,
Congratulations on choosing a career in cannabis! I can assure you that, while it's not always easy to make a living in the marijuana culture, it surely is fun and fulfilling. In prior years, legitimate jobs were few and far between, with limited options outside of working for a few non-profits or as a criminal-defense attorney. Recently, however, with all the advances in cannabis-law reform, many new careers—from growing medical marijuana or running a dispensary to lobbying the government or gathering petitions—have become a reality.

My first suggestion, since you're still in school, is to join your college's SSDP (Students for Sensible Drug Policy) chapter, or start one if

need be. It's a wonderful entry point into the world of pot activism, and you'll meet many like-minded individuals, some of whom will become lifelong allies and friends.

As you've indicated, taking as many classes in horticulture and plant science as you can will give you valuable information and lessons on where to begin. Read every book you can find on the subject, and always be willing to learn more from elders in the community. There are also several wonderful cannabis schools popping up in the wake of Richard Lee's successful Oakland University in Oakland, CA. These are places where you can get on the fast track to understanding cultivation, activism and entrepreneurship, and I highly recommend taking a full schedule of courses before embarking on a cannabis career.

Light Leaks Outdoors

Will the light from the security light on my neighbor's garage—which is very bright and shines into my yard at night—affect the blooming process of my plants? And when are you coming for a visit to NorCal? Cheese is growing strong in the Trinity and in many small gardens all along the highways and byways of the wonderfully beautiful Emerald Triangle

Hempie Chef of Shasta

Dear Hempie Chef,
Greetings, and thanks so much for the incredible cannabis-infused feasts that you catered for our first-ever HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in San Francisco last June! As for your question, the security light could definitely affect your budding plants. If the light is bright enough, it could interrupt their flowering cycle and revert them back to their vegetative stage.

The best thing you can do is to block that light from reaching your plants. Raise the fence or build a barrier that will protect your crops during the dark cycle to ensure that they continue to flower and reach maturity. A little light is okay—think of the amount given off by a full moon—but too much will confuse your plants and limit your harvest severely.

I can't wait to return to the wonderful gardens of Northern California. The hospitality of the residents and the enormous size of the plants they grow in full sun are legendary. Last time I was there, I saw weed farms the size of apple orchards and pot trees as large as 30 feet tall!

Planter Size

Thank you for the opportunity to be able to ask questions like this. My plant is now four to five weeks old and has been doing perfect outside with Miracle Gro soil. I'm growing it in a coconut planter, and my question is: I'm getting ready to replant it into a larger 5-gallon pot, but I'd like to use a 16-inch coconut planter, since I find my plant growing much faster with one. Can I finish out the rest of the growth period using a 16- or 22-inch planter? Is that deep enough?

GGB

Dear GGB,

By "coconut planter," I believe you're referring to the coco-coir plant containers that are typically used to line the insides of more sturdy pots. They're great to use due to their porosity, since they allow air to reach the roots better than soil-less mixes. The containers you suggest are deep enough to grow cannabis, but I would go with the largest one you can find in order to optimize your yield.

One note on Miracle Gro products: These are formulated for ornamental flowers and are not organic, nor are they meant for vegetable production, in my opinion. Since they're made up of concentrated salts and metals generated in a lab, it's easy to burn your plants with Miracle Gro products and difficult to flush them out in the end. I recommend you try a more earth-friendly and cannabis-specific product, such as Earth Juice or Age Old Organics, in order to grow cleaner-burning and better-tasting pot.

Pollen Catcher

How do you tell if a female plant has been pollinated?

John

Dear John,

Shortly after a female flower has encountered male pollen, it will begin to shift over its efforts from expanding bud growth to producing seeds. The bracts will begin to swell, and the white hairs will quickly start to turn red and shrivel up. Soon after, the swollen calyxes will open and you'll be

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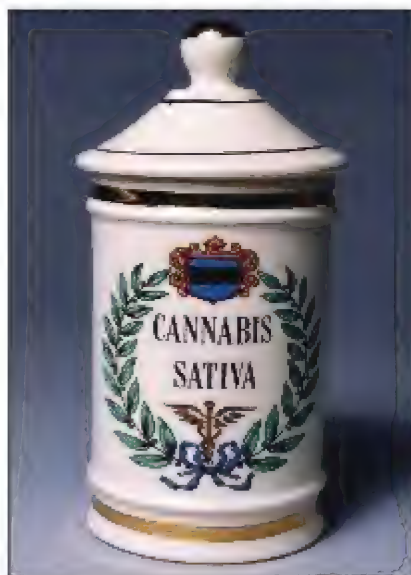
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able to see seeds protruding from them.

Pollination and seed production can only occur in the presence of a pollen-producing male (or a hermaphroditic female, which also produces pollen), so it's important to limit your plants' exposure to both. Check your plants for signs of male flowers often, especially during the first three weeks of the flowering period. Terminate all males or hermaphrodites with extreme prejudice as soon as they're discovered, unless you want a harvest riddled with beans instead of buds.

Outdoor Grow Holes

I'd like to know if I can plant seeds directly into my native soil, or whether it's better to use a store-bought soil mix?

Horsemeat Henry

Dear HH,
Interesting nickname! It's possible to plant directly into your soil, but that's not nearly as effective as actually digging out a hole and filling it with a loose, airy mix. The bigger the hole you dig, the more room for the roots to expand, and thus the more you'll harvest from each plant. Outdoors in full sun, I recommend a minimum of 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet deep—but, as I said, the bigger the better. Outdoor growers have been known to rent a tractor backhoe to excavate huge holes for their plants.

Fill your hole with soilless mix (peat or coco works well) and plenty of compost and worm castings, then add whatever other amendments you wish to benefit from; these can include greensand, bat or seabird guano, beneficial mycorrhizae, dead fish at the bottom of the hole, and even the placenta from a recently born baby. All of these things will provide a steady diet of soluble nutrients for your plants as they grow.

The best thing about having your own mix in the hole instead of native soil is that the much higher level of drainage and porosity will allow air to reach plant roots. In subsequent years, you can add nutrients to the mix and place compost directly on the surface as a top dressing.

Root-Bound

My plants grew really well for the first few weeks, and then it's like they suddenly hit a wall: Growth slowed to a crawl, and no matter what I do, nothing works. The plants look perfectly healthy, but they're not advancing at all. My buddy told me they're root-bound. The containers I'm using are 1-gallon pots. Are these too small? How do I know if my plants are root-bound, and what can I do about it?

Doogie Hazer

Dear DH,
Your friend is right: Your plants are root-bound, meaning they have outgrown the size of their

containers, and you need to transplant them immediately. Root-bound plants send messages back to the growing shoots that there is no more room for them to expand. Branches respond to these hormonal changes by ceasing growth and adjusting to life in a smaller container. Houseplants do the same thing.

Prepare your new, larger growing container with a healthy scoop of fresh medium up to the level of your previous container's height. You won't be filling in the sides until after you've transplanted your root-bound plant. Moisten the mix in the bottom of your buckets or pots to the consistency of a wrung-out sponge.

Before transplanting a root-bound plant, thoroughly soak the growing medium, because a dried-out medium will crumble and fall apart, greatly damaging the root system. Once the medium is completely moistened, flip over the container and lightly tap it on the back and sides to loosen the soil and root-ball from the inside of your pot. Be gentle: You want to keep the entire root structure and soil mass together. It should come out of the container fairly easily if you follow these steps.

Acquiring Live Cannabis Seeds

I live in the USA and want to know if it's illegal to order seeds online—and also if it's a bad idea? I've wanted to do it, but I'm also afraid it might get me busted. Thanks!

Chadwick

Dear Chadwick,

It is illegal in the US, yes. The truth is that ordering seeds over the Internet requires entering into a murky territory as far as the integrity of your transaction is concerned. Little can be done when money has been sent and no seeds arrive. Complaints on the Internet about fly-by-night companies that send nothing—or, even worse in some cases, questionable seeds of dubious origin.

Never have seeds sent to the address where you live or where you're planning to grow. Instead, find a friend or sympathetic relative willing to take the relative risk of having the beans confiscated before arrival, and then follow the seed company's ordering instructions and info to a T.

If you want to find a legitimate seed retailer or seller, the best thing you can do is a little research: How long have they been around? How is their customer service? How many complaints have been made? (Though keep in mind that almost every seed company has had a few disgruntled customers for one reason or another.) Or, better yet, take a look at my Seed Bank Hall of Fame winners and nominees at hightimes.com/seedbankhalloffame. These are my choices for the companies that have proven their worth with many years of diligent breeding, excellent customer service, and the creation of many HIGH TIMES Cannabis Cup winners. Remember, those companies that stand the test of time are the ones with genetics worth investing in. Those that jump into the business with the intention to just take the money and run are fairly quickly weeded out. 🌱

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NEXT MONTH IN HIGH TIMES



HYDRO BLOCKBUSTER!

Our 12th annual report on hydroponic cultivation covers systems, mediums and top tips to get going. Our indoor guru, cultivation editor Nico Escondido, offers in-depth analyses of the latest technologies, gear, strains and problem-shooting tactics to keep your hydro setup running smoothly and pumping out big yields. Plus, check out one of the most pristine hydroponic growrooms we've seen to date. Superb photos allow beginners and experts to experience the ins and outs as well as the ups and downs of successful systems.

H₂-GROW

We're all wet—because water is what this feature is all about! Plants can't grow without this essential element, yet growers often don't give it the attention it deserves. So if hydro is your grow system of choice, you'll need the cold, hard facts about water, water-filtration techniques, types of water, and how to measure, analyze and, yes, even drink ... water! Contributor Hugh Jielder tells you everything you need to know about indoor water maximization.

STORYS IN HOLLYWOOD

The 10th Annual HIGH TIMES Stony Awards proved to be the most lavish film awards show in our history. The event drew a number of top celebs, including Jesse Ventura, Rob Corrdry, Pauly Shore, Doug Benson, Craig Robinson and Dan Finnerty.

PHOSPHORUS OUT PH

Understanding and controlling the acidity or alkalinity of your growing medium and nutrient solution is crucial to successful cannabis cultivation. New contributor Herb Spadowski, Ph.D., breaks down the proper levels for full food absorption and higher yields.

WALK-WALK MEDICINE

Colorado's medical-marijuana industry is booming, but the policies and politics surrounding it continue to evolve. Senior editor Bobby Black visits the state's oldest and largest dispensary for an investigative report.

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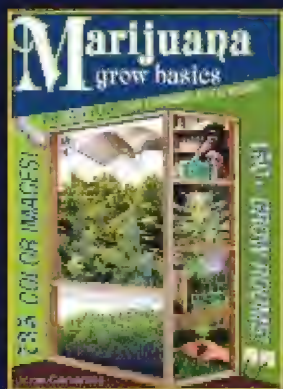
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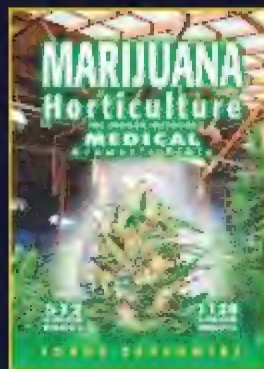


MARIJUANA GROW BASICS

The Easy Guide for Cannabis Aficionados

Latest book by Jorge Cervantes. This practical, informative guide is packed with more than 700 full-color illustrations and photos that detail more than 150 affordable marijuana grow setups. Become an expert on growroom and internet security, feminized seeds, seedlings, cloning, mother plants, singling out male and female plants early, peak sinsemilla harvest, as well as manicuring, drying and curing your crop for highest potency.

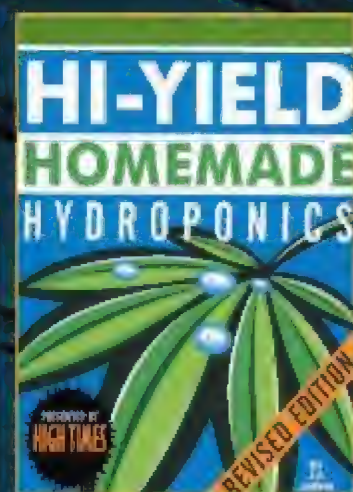
Design and set up your grow room with supplies from your local hardware store and garden center. Plus troubleshoot problems and control common pests & diseases! \$21.95



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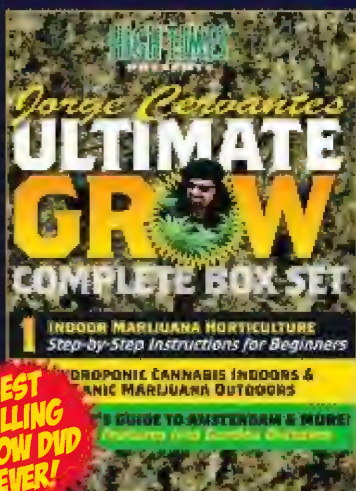
JORGE'S ULTIMATE GROW CALENDAR

HIGH TIMES is proud to offer the Ultimate Grow Calendar, featuring hot tips from the world's foremost cannabis cultivator, Jorge Cervantes. Packed with monthly summaries and daily grow tips, this calendar aims to keep you on track, whether you are growing indoors or outside. \$13.99



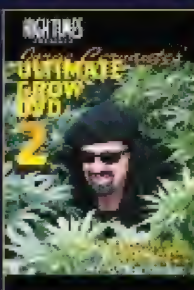
ULTIMATE GROW DVD 1

Indoor Marijuana Horticulture
Jorge Cervantes, the world's ultimate ganja guide, brings his expertise to this instructional DVD—taking you step-by-step from seeds and clones to harvest in the high style. \$19.99



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Three-disc DVD box set includes *Ultimate Grow: Indoor Marijuana Horticulture*, and *Ultimate Grow 2: Hydroponic Cannabis Indoors & Organic Marijuana Outdoors*, PLUS a full disc of never-before-seen bonus features! Extras include *Jorge's Guide to Amsterdam*, helpful hints for your plants, and more garden tours! \$49.95



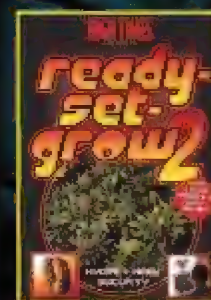
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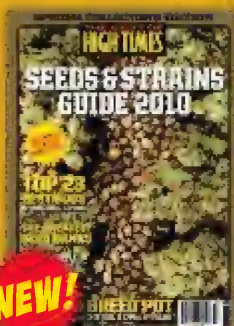
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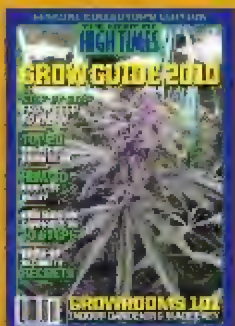
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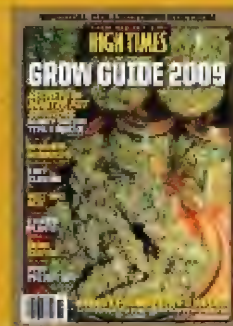
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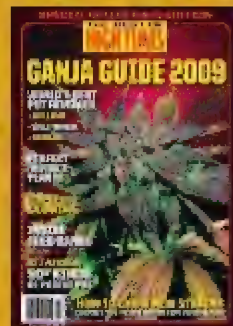
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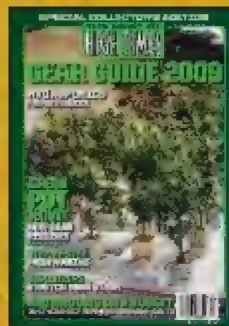
Best of HT #54: Grow Guide 2009

Tip and tricks to perfect your grow-op: airflow, cooling, soil mix, easy cloning, odor control, and how to grow a pound every 3 weeks! \$6.99



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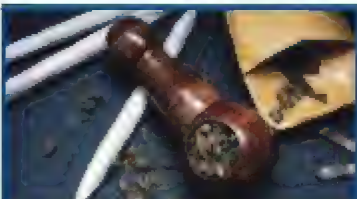
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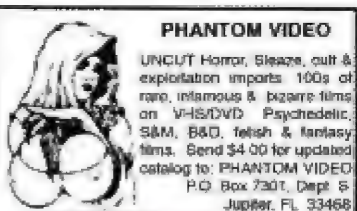
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THE FIRST REFERENCE TO 420 APPEARED IN THE POT40 WHEN IT WAS THE HEMP100, WAY BACK IN AUGUST 1991 (ISSUE # 192).

1 I WAS 420 ON 4-20 AT 4:20

THIS IS THE FIRST PUBLISHED REFERENCE TO 420 ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD THAT WE CAN FIND.

2 IN THE APRIL 1992 ISSUE (#200) IT REAPPEARED.

3 IT'S 4:42 HOW RED ARE YOUR EYES?

AND AGAIN IN AUGUST 1992:

4 IT'S 4:20!!! DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR BONG IS?

AFTER THAT, IT BEGAN TO APPEAR MORE AND MORE, USUALLY IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS:

5 4:20 POT SMOKING IN PROGRESS

6 IT'S 4:20 AND WADDOVA WANNA DO?

7 TEAM 420 - NORTHERN HUMBOLDT CHAPTER

8 THE 420 CLUB

9 BAKE AT 4:20 FOR 10-20 MINUTES

10 4:20 ALL DAY LONG

11 FUCK 4:20, I'M LIGHTING IT NOW!

THE POT40 IS PROUD TO HAVE BROUGHT THE 420 PHENOMENON INTO EXISTENCE, JUST AS WE HELPED POPULARIZE SO MANY OTHER THINGS.

12 SO VOTE FOR SOMETHING YOU LIKE, AND MAYBE IT WILL BECOME FAMOUS SOMEDAY!



8:40 TWICE AS NICE!!

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A GOOD BOARD THAT STARTED A FEW MONTHS BACK TALKING ABOUT BODYBUILDING - DID THEY SEE 420 FRIENDLY, IF YOU LIKE LIFTING WEIGHTS, CHECK THEM OUT!

JUST SAY
LEGALIZE 420

Thank God for Flora and fauna, especially cannabis marijuana

IF THE OPPOSITE OF "PRO" IS "CON," THEN THE "OPPOSITE" OF "PROGRESS" IS CONGRESS!

HY SHROOMS
HE RULES!

VALENCIA PARK NEED HEAD!
FULLERTON, CA

Stay Green

BLUNT SUN

VIRGIN ISLAND BUDZ

It's my duty to Please Captain BOOTY
my 22-year old cat



GRATEFUL DEAD

Harold & Kumar
Getting stoned and watching

HELLCATS

DRIZZEL & CONFUSED

STOP THE WAR
KILL NO MORE, IT'S MAKING US CRIPPLED AND POOR. WE SHOULD BE LEGALLY SMOKING AFGHAN HASH INSTEAD OF AFGHAN REBELS!

I've been weedless for 3 months and drunk as a skunk, so my PG will find nothing in my pee but pure rocky mountain spring water.

Oh Lord, Won't you buy me a Mercedes-Benz?

GOD'S NATURAL MEDICINE

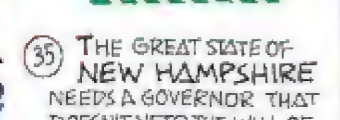
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A FRIEND WITH WEED IS...UM...UH...OH, YEAH COOL!

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WHY DO THEY PUT FENCES AROUND A CEMETERY, P
EVERYONE'S DYING TO GET IN

PARTY NAKED

IT'S EASIER TO GET LAID

"MOE, YOU KNOW I CAN'T WORK UNLESS I GET HIGH FIRST? I SURE COULD USE A GREAT BIG HIT OF COLOMBIAN RED! NYUK NYUK NYUK!"

"WELL, I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE COLOMBIAN, BUT HERE'S THE HIT!"

"OW! MY KNEE NEE-NEE-NEE-NEE-NEE! MY KNEE! MRRREEEP!"

I GUESS THEY CALL IT A ROACH CLIP BECAUSE 'POT HOLDER' WAS ALREADY TAKEN.

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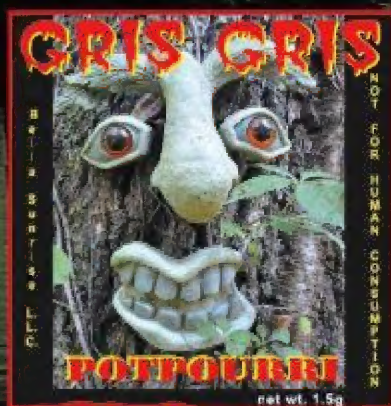
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DPC-7500 COMBO



Every year, hundreds of people find out that plugging grow lights into regular timers and power strips is a very dangerous combination - one that often results in a fire due to electrical overload. Your grow lights use more power than anything else in your garden. To run safely, they need a special controller designed specifically to handle demanding power loads. So, when you invest in all of the gear to make your indoor garden a success, it is essential that you start with the best lighting controller. Anything else is putting your entire operation at risk.

A **Powerbox™** lighting controller will ensure the safe operation of your grow lights, while preventing dangerous overload conditions that can lead to a fire. It will keep your lights running at peak efficiency and also give you piece-of-mind knowing that you have eliminated the biggest risk your room faces. Hand-made in California from the finest components available, **Powerbox™** lighting controllers are the ultimate companion for your grow lights.



MADE IN CALIFORNIA

INFO@POWERBOXINC.COM

WWW.POWERBOXINC.COM



5 YEAR WARRANTY

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composition

vegetable compost, native block cut florida peat, chunky
perlite, coconut coir, dolomitic lime, organic chicken
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